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## Tension Building Between Israel and U.S. Over Pullback

By Irence Smith

JERUSALEM, Dec. 27 (NYT).—Diplomatic tension seems to be building up between the United States and Israel on the eve of the next round of negotiations with Egypt over the Sinai Peninsula.

In background conversations in the last two weeks, senior officials in Washington and Jerusalem expressed concern that a serious collision of interests might emerge between the United States and Israel when hard bargaining over Sinai gets under way with Egypt.

Preliminary contacts on a new Sinai agreement have already begun through Secretary of State Henry Kissinger. Detailed negotiations are expected to start next month or in February.

An initial Sinai agreement was reached between Israel and Egypt early this year and resulted in a disengagement of forces on the Suez front. A second-stage agreement is under consideration now.

**Buying Time**

In addition, Israel is eager to buy time in the forthcoming negotiations. Premier Yitzhak Rabin has conceded this publicly, explaining that Israel "needs time to reconstitute."

Specifically, the Israelis want to complete the rebuilding and retraining of their army, which suffered major losses of equipment and manpower in the war with the Arabs last year. The first and most crucial phase of this process is expected to end by April; when emergency supplies from the United States will be completed.

In the longer term, Israel is eager to buy time until the world energy situation stabilizes and oil becomes less useful as a weapon for the Arab states. In addition (Continued on Page 2, Col. 1)

## Israel and Egypt Reported Far Apart in Talks Positions

By Bernard Gwertzman

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27 (NYT).—Israel and Egypt are reported to be very far apart in their initial positions for the next round of negotiations over Sinai.

Well-placed diplomats and American officials said yesterday that each side had passed on to Secretary of State Henry Kissinger "maximum" positions that were clearly unacceptable to the other.

But Cairo and Jerusalem have indicated to Mr. Kissinger that they remained interested in his promotion of the Sinai negotiations.

Mr. Kissinger, who left yesterday on a one-week vacation with his wife in Puerto Rico, has said that he believed he can make progress toward breaking the impasse but that the situation remains delicate.

Mr. Kissinger was reported to have said in a meeting Monday night with Israeli Ambassador Simcha Dinitz that he did not foresee any significant progress toward negotiations until after a meeting Wednesday in Cairo among Egypt, Syria, Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organization, and after a scheduled mid-January visit to Cairo by Leonid Brezhnev, the Soviet party leader.

**Key Passes at Stake**

Meanwhile, Mr. Kissinger has told Israeli officials that he did not believe that President Anwar Sadat of Egypt would be interested in any negotiations that did not at least hold out the strong possibility of Egypt's recovering either the key Mitla and Gidi Passes in the central Sinai or the Abu Rodeis oil fields now controlled by Israel.

Egyptian diplomats have reportedly said that both the passes and the oil fields must be recovered in the second-stage talks. Israel has ruled out the return of either.

When Israeli Foreign Minister Yigal Allon was in Washington earlier this month, he reportedly told Mr. Kissinger that his government was prepared to discuss an agreement along the following lines:

• An Israeli withdrawal of 18 to 30 miles in the Sinai, so long as the area evacuated would remain demilitarized.

• The second-stage withdrawal would be carried out in the northern or southern Sinai and leave the Mitla and Gidi Passes in Israeli hands.

• This accord would last much longer than the six-month, renewable periods negotiated in the disengagement of last January. Mr. Allon suggested five to six years.

• The agreement, in keeping with Egypt's wishes, could be called a military disengagement, but there would have to be some Egyptian political concessions.

## 41 Killed In French Mine Blast

Six Are Injured; Others Sought

YIGAL ALLON that another oil embargo would be "disaster" for the West. He is also quoted by officials here as having told Mr. Allon that Israel's opening proposal for the negotiations is "unattainable" and that it would have to settle for considerably less.

Finally, according to officials here, Ford stressed that, in the American view, political movement was crucial to peace in the Middle East and Israel would have to help achieve it.

Israel, by contrast, is said to believe that major concessions to Egypt at this point would serve only to whet the Arab appetite for further Israeli withdrawals and to hasten war rather than postpone it.

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The mines of the area, near the Belgian border, are regarded to be highly dangerous because of a high concentration of firecrackers. However, mine officials said that security men checked the level in the mine throughout the holiday period.

President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing sent condolences to the miners' families and dispatched Industry Minister Michel D'Ornano to head the investigation.

Investigators have not been able to ascertain, so far, exactly what caused the explosion.

"Sometimes, the volatile, highly explosive coal dust is ignited by a mere spark from a pneumatic drill hitting a flint," a rescuer said.

Today's mine disaster was one of the worst since French mines were nationalized in 1946. The previous highest toll in recent years was 29 miners killed in 1958.

The worst single French coal mine accident was in 1906, when 1,171 miners died in an explosion at Courrières, near Lens.

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## Sadat Leads Rites

**Marshal Ismail Is Mourned In Cairo Funeral Procession**

CAIRO, Dec. 27 (UPI).—Egypt today mourned the death of Field Marshal Ahmed Ismail, its top military commander, in a state funeral led by President Anwar Sadat.

Marshal Ismail, 57, died of lung cancer in London Wednesday. He was succeeded by Lt. Gen. Mohammed Gamasy, 53, as war minister and commander in chief of the armed forces. President Sadat appointed Gen. Gamasy as Marshal Ismail's successor late last night.

Mr. Sadat, flanked by Gen. Gamasy and Marshal Ismail's two sons, led a large crowd of mourners, including government officials, ambassadors and representatives from other Arab nations.

The coffin, draped in an Egyptian flag which had been raised in Sinai last year over land recaptured from Israel in the October war, was borne through the streets on a gun carriage pulled by six horses.

In front of the funeral procession, members of the armed services—cadets, soldiers and commanders carrying large wreaths of chrysanthemums, dahlias and roses on palm-leaf shields—and roses on palm-leaf shields—marched slowly to dirges played by two military bands. Three soldiers walked immediately behind the coffin, bearing Marshal Ismail's medals and awards on pillows.

The funeral procession followed a half-mile route, from Omar Makram Mosque to Charkass Mosque.

At Charkass, Marshal Ismail's family received the body for burial.

As Mr. Sadat left, the crowd broke through a police cordon and surged toward the dignitaries. But it was quickly dispersed.

Witnesses reported a clash between security forces guarding the funeral route and a crowd

of several hundred who tried to join the procession as it left Tahrir Square on its way to Charkass Mosque.

They said 19 persons, including four policemen, were injured. They said several persons in the crowd threw stones at the police, who used sticks to disperse them.

Fahmy, Gamasy to Moscow

MOSCOW, Dec. 27 (AP).—The Soviet Union officially announced tonight that Egyptian Foreign Minister Ismail Fahmy and Gen. Gamasy would arrive in Moscow tomorrow.

But Tass, the Soviet news agency, did not give many details. It said the trip was "in keeping with an arrangement made earlier."

Tass said the two Egyptians would be in Moscow "for an exchange of views on matters that are of interest to the two sides."

It was thought, here, that the two ministers would make preparations for Soviet party leader Leonid Brezhnev's planned visit to Cairo in the middle of next month. Mr. Brezhnev also plans to visit Syria and Iraq.

There have been reports from Beirut that the Soviet Union has offered to supply Egypt with its newest MiG jets and anti-aircraft missiles if Soviet military experts were allowed to return to Egypt.

Presumably Mr. Fahmy and Gen. Gamasy will hold preliminary talks with Soviet leaders on any agreements that might be signed in January by Mr. Sadat and Mr. Brezhnev.

Pilotless Aircraft

TEL AVIV, Dec. 27 (UPI).—Israel unveiled details today of U.S.-built pilotless aircraft which it said flew reconnaissance missions over Egypt and Syria during the October war.

An authoritative quarterly, the Air Force Journal, said the re-



United Press International  
FUNERAL PROCESSION—Horse-drawn, flag-draped gun carriage carrying coffin of former War Minister Field Marshal Ahmed Ismail through Cairo streets Friday.

mote-controlled jet planes caused air-raid sirens to go off in Cairo and Alexandria during the war.

Israel first admitted it possessed drones when a Checker, a plane built by Northrop Aviation, was lost over the Suez Canal on Dec. 13, 1973, because of what the military command said was a malfunction.

Military censorship has prevented disclosure of the number of pilotless planes Israel possesses.

The Air Force Journal also said a Syrian MiG-21 and an Egyptian surface-to-air missile shot down Firebee drones during the war.

It said the Firebee, built by Teledyne Ryan Aeracoustics of the United States under Israeli specifications, at a cost of \$500,000, flew over Cairo and Alexandria several times during the war to photograph airfields, missile installations, military concentrations and urban areas.

Victor Marchetti and John Marks in their book, "The CIA and the Cult of Intelligence," estimated that the total annual budget of the agency was \$750 million.

The prevailing view in Congress seems to have been that expressed three years ago by Sen. John Stennis, D-Miss., who is the single most influential member on intelligence matters.

"You have to make up your mind that you are going to have an intelligence agency and protect it as such and shut your eyes some and take what is coming," he said in a floor speech.

His fear and that of many other members of Congress and the intelligence community has been that, if knowledge of CIA operations became widespread in Congress, some congressmen might disclose confidential information that could endanger the country.

Congress has delegated to four subcommittees, two in the Senate and two in the House, its oversight function with regard to the CIA.

The Senate and House Armed Services Committees each have intelligence subcommittees made up of the most senior members of the full panels. The Senate subcommittee has five members headed by Sen. Stennis. The House subcommittee has seven members headed by Rep. Lucien Nuzzi, D-Mich.

"I do not think there is a man in the legislative part of the government who really knows what is

### Rabin Breaks Collarbone in Fall at Home

TEL AVIV, Dec. 27 (UPI).—Premier Yitzhak Rabin broke his right collarbone in a fall at his suburban Tel Aviv home today, doctors said, and was fitted with a plaster cast during 30 minutes of treatment at a hospital.

Dr. Mordechai Shani, director of Tel Hashomer hospital, said: "There was a fracture of the clavicle. He left 30 minutes later. There is no need to hospitalize anyone with a broken clavicle, be he a regular person or a premier. He's in fine condition. There were no problems."

He said Mr. Rabin, 51, would have to wear the cast three weeks.

After treatment Mr. Rabin went back to his home in Ramat Aviv, north of Tel Aviv, and later held a four-hour meeting with members of parliament's Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee.

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After the news conference, the Kissingers boarded a plane to go to Dorado Beach, 18 miles west of San Juan, where they will spend the vacation with Vice-President and Mrs. Nelson Rockefeller. The Rockefellers arrived here yesterday and went immediately to their Dorado Beach home.

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Mr.

J. R. J. 1974

**Early Alcoholism' Feared****50% in U.S. High Schools Said to Mix Drinking, Driving**

By Stuart Auerbach

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27 (UPI)—Half of America's high school students go to drinking parties at least once each month and a majority of that number—51 percent—admitted to getting drunk at least once a month, according to a study released yesterday by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

The study said the percentage of high school drinkers was about the same as the figure for adults.

Dr. James Gregory, head of the safety administration, called the statistics "surprising, alarming and frightening."

More disturbing to the safety

experts than the amount of drinking was the finding that driving goes with the consumption of alcohol.

Few high school students drink at home, the study showed, and half of them said they had driven at least once or twice while drunk. One-fourth of the drinking students said they have driven three or more times when drunk, and about one-third said they have been passengers at least once a month in cars whose drivers had been drinking heavily.

National statistics show that alcohol plays a role in half of the country's 45,000 yearly traffic deaths. Half of these fatalities involve problem drinkers.

While the study did not show whether high school drinking has increased in recent years, other surveys reported by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare found that teen-age drinking is up.

Dr. Morris Chafetz, director of HEW's National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, said the statistics showing more teenage drinking are indications of "early alcoholism."

"It just blows my mind. It worries me greatly," Dr. Chafetz said.

The study was done by Grey Advertising of New York as part of a \$1.5-million, two-year contract to develop advertising methods to influence problem drinkers to cut drinking and driving. The agency's research uncovered the high percentage of high school drinkers.

The survey of students—which provided the most surprising results of the study—involved interviews with 337 high school students, equally divided between all four classes, picked from 35 areas selected to represent the nation.

The students were questioned privately outside their home to insure truthfulness and the answers were screened in an attempt to make sure that the respondents were not just bragging about the amount of drinking they do, officials said.

Eight out of 10 of the students questioned said they had consumed an alcoholic beverage during the week they were interviewed and 14 per cent said they had consumed nine drinks or more.

Two weeks before that, Mr. Ford had decided "to zero in

**1 Per Cent Less Free**

Sixty-six countries with 42 per cent of the world's population were termed not free; 84 countries with 23 per cent of the population were rated partly free and 58 countries with 35 per cent were termed free. The survey listed 1 per cent fewer persons in the free category this year than a year ago.

This year, for the first time, Freedom House analyzed what it called "the new colonialism." This involved the so-called "major subordinate peoples," who were defined as minorities of 1 million or more within autonomous nations. In that context, the Soviet Union and India were called the "greatest imperial states today" based on the lack of self-determination accorded their minority populations. The study examined the cultural similarity of the subordinate group to the majority group and the level of political equality granted to the subordinate peoples.

Among other nations with subordinate groups, ratings of high political equality" were given to the Berbers in Algeria, the Quebec French in Canada and the Bretons in France. Ratings of low equality were given to the Tibetans in China, the Bantus in South Africa and the Karens in Burma.

**U.S. Not Listed**

No groups were listed for the United States because, the study said, "it does not have a subordinate group larger than 1 million persons."

Only one nation, Greece, was listed to the free category in 1974. Four countries—Egypt, Ghana, Liberia and Spain—were listed from "not free" to "partly free."

Listed as the 17 "freest nations" were, in alphabetical order, Australia, Austria, Barbados, Belgium, Britain, Canada, Costa Rica, Denmark, West Germany, Iceland, Malta, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and the United States.

**U.S. Holiday Toll Is 204**

NEW YORK, Dec. 27 (AP)—The National Safety Council said yesterday that 204 Americans died on Christmas Eve and Christmas in traffic accidents. The council had predicted that between 200 and 250 persons would die.

**Ervin to Retire Three Days Early**

MORGANTON, N.C., Dec. 27 (AP)—Sen. Sam Ervin Jr., D-N.C., said today that he expects to resign from the Senate effective at midnight Tuesday in order to take advantage of the retirement law.

The resignation would make it possible for his successor, Robert Morgan, to be sworn in a few days early, gaining seniority over other freshman senators, if North Carolina's Republican governor appoints him to the remainder of Mr. Ervin's term.

"They are more likely to be liberal and permissive and feel that their current social environment is overly restrictive and authoritarian in its attitudes toward young people," the study reported.

**Utilities Lack Capital, Halt Projects**

NEW YORK, Dec. 27 (AP)—The National Safety Council said yesterday that 204 Americans died on Christmas Eve and Christmas in traffic accidents. The council had predicted that between 200 and 250 persons would die.

**U.S. Atomic-Energy Program Is Facing Drastic Reduction**

By Victor McElheny

NEW YORK, Dec. 27 (NYT)—

A year after the proclamation of Project Independence, the program to make the country self-sufficient in energy, the proposed contribution of nuclear energy in the next few years has fallen drastically.

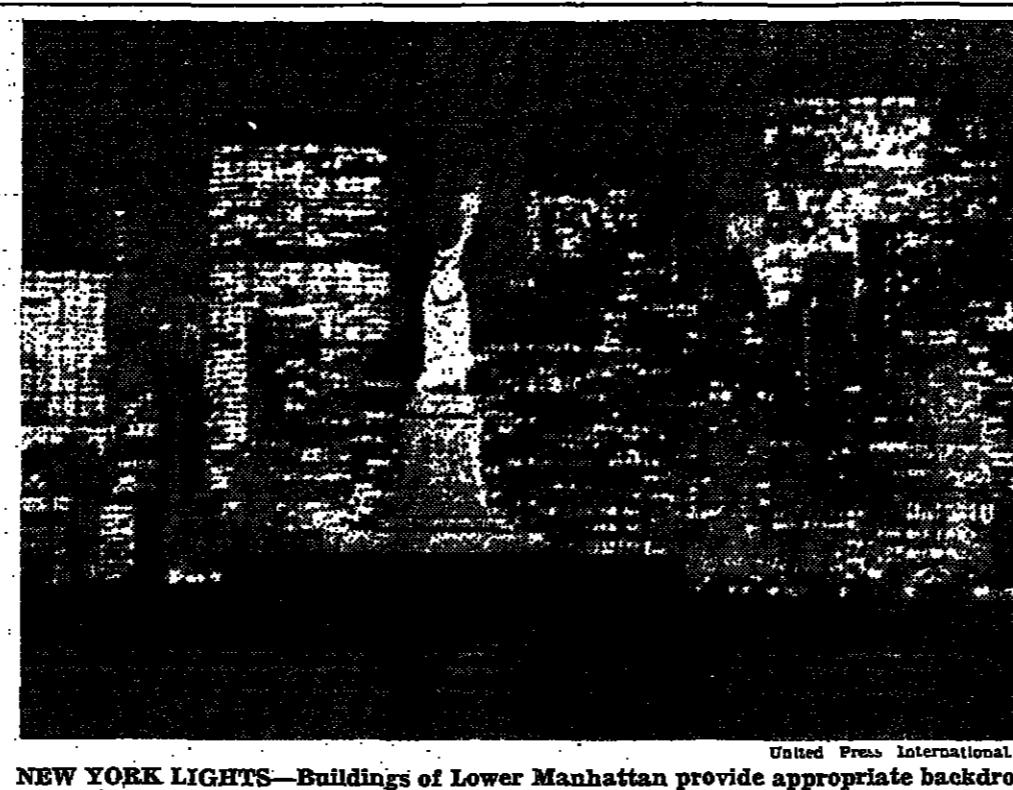
This development is said by

backers of nuclear power to foreshadow additional pressure on a hard-pressed coal industry and delay in converting electric power stations from costly imported petroleum. It has also increased the dangers of power shortages in some areas and possibly a delayed recovery from the recession.

In the last several months, an epidemic of cancellations and delays has affected nearly half the projects for nuclear power plants in the country, 112 out of 236 at the latest count.

These cancellations and delays

are not attributed, as in the past, to environmental or safety concerns or to problems with construction or delivery of key components. Instead, the troubles are laid to the increased difficulties



NEW YORK LIGHTS—Buildings of Lower Manhattan provide appropriate backdrop for the Statue of Liberty on Thursday as the landmark was harbor's main attraction.

**2 Ex-Commerce Chiefs Urge Tough Energy Curbs by U.S.**

By Michael C. Jensen

NEW YORK, Dec. 27 (NYT)—Two former secretaries of commerce, John Connor and Peter Peterson, and the executive director of the National Urban League, Vernon Jordan Jr., called on the Ford administration yesterday to adopt tough new energy policies that would probably lead to sharply higher fuel prices.

They said the new policies, which would include stand-by gasoline rationing for use in a short-term emergency, "were necessary to overcome the nation's dependence on imported oil."

The officials said they were speaking for some of business executives, labor leaders and educators who had formed an ad hoc group called Citizens for a Strong Energy Program.

The announcement of the group's unofficial energy program was seen as an attempt to prod the Ford administration into taking aggressive action to solve the nation's energy problems.

**Biggest Threat Since '30s**

Mr. Peterson, who is chairman of Lehman Brothers, Inc., an investment banking concern, and served as secretary of commerce in 1972 and 1973, said the world oil situation posed the most serious economic threat since the depression of the 1930s.

Mr. Marks arrived in Saigon last Saturday on assignment for a magazine and had been interviewing politicians who oppose President Nguyen Van Thieu.

A companion, Barbara Guss of Washington, was expelled with Mr. Marks, the spokesman said.

Mr. Marks was calling for a reduction in U.S. consumption of at least a million barrels a day from current levels by July 4, 1976.

Such a reduction, he said, would undoubtedly require such measures as new gasoline or fuel oil taxes to discourage consumption, strict temperature and lighting standards and energy rates that would "penalize" users of "wasteful amounts of energy."

While Mr. Peterson did not spell out the full impact of the proposed program on consumers, Mr. Connor, who is chairman of the Allied Chemical Corp. and served as secretary of commerce from 1965 to 1967, said the program would undoubtedly result in sharply higher prices and perhaps rationing.

**'Open Letter'** The group's proposals were presented in an "open letter" to

the President and Congress. Mr. Peterson said the letter had been delivered to the White House, cabinet members, the Federal Energy Administration and congressional leaders.

The open letter concluded that an "urgent" energy program required sacrifices "from all of us."

In addition to asking for a reduction of oil consumption in the United States of a million barrels a day by July 4, 1976, the group called for a further reduction of 500,000 barrels by July 4, 1976.

The group said it favored an "emergency stand-by program" with stockpiled reserves in case of a future embargo and wanted a rapid increase in domestic supplies of crude oil, which have continued to decline at the rate of about 5 per cent a year.

**Major Points**

Among the major recommendations were:

- Tariffs to limit oil imports and ceilings on oil imports.

- Gasoline or fuel-oil taxes to discourage consumption, with rates, especially for the poor.

- Increased taxes or annual license fees on automobiles, appliances and other machines that used energy inefficiently. Also, full disclosure of the consumption or efficiency of such equipment.

- Vigorous enforcement of 55-mile-an-hour speed limits.

- A system of energy rates that penalized the use of "wasteful" amounts of energy.

- Temperature and lighting standards that could be "reasonably enforced" without unduly intruding into the private lives of citizens.

- Subsidies and tax credits to stimulate investments in insulation and energy-saving equipment.

**Judge Maintains Order Depriving Chicago of Funds**

CHICAGO, Dec. 27 (NYT)—A federal judge refused yesterday to conform to the order of a federal judge in Washington depriving Chicago of \$19 million in federal revenue-sharing funds because the city has been discriminating against minorities and women in hiring policemen.

The ruling by the Washington judge was the first in the country in which the Treasury Department was ordered to cut off revenue-sharing payments to a locality because it was found to be discriminating in a service for which these funds were used.

Chicago city attorneys immediately went to District Judge Preston Marshall here asking him to reverse the order by District Judge John L. Smith of Wash-

ington.

Last November, Judge Marshall ruled that the city must revise its police-recruiting program because it discriminated against blacks, Spanish-speaking applicants and women.

Judge Smith's order was based on the November ruling, Judge Marshall said here today, adding:

"He could only have found that the actions of the city constitute a violation disqualifying the city of revenue. No injunction of mine can set aside that adjudication."

**11 Brazil Children Killed**

RIO DE JANEIRO, Dec. 27 (AP)—A spark ignited a balloon salesman's nitrogen tank during a religious festival in the north-eastern town of Campina Grande, causing an explosion that killed 11 children and injured 30 other persons, a newspaper reported today.

FROM ANTWERP BELGIUM

the DIAMOND for you This Xmas

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 27 (AP)—The Socialist Workers party announced today the selection of an anti-war activist and a black female community organizer as its presidential and vice-presidential candidates for 1976.

Peter Camejo, 32, of Boston, who ran for the U.S. Senate in Massachusetts in 1970, was chosen to head the ticket. Willie Mae Reid, of Chicago, will seek the vice-presidency, according to a party statement. The party claims that about 10,000 persons worked in its campaign in 1972.

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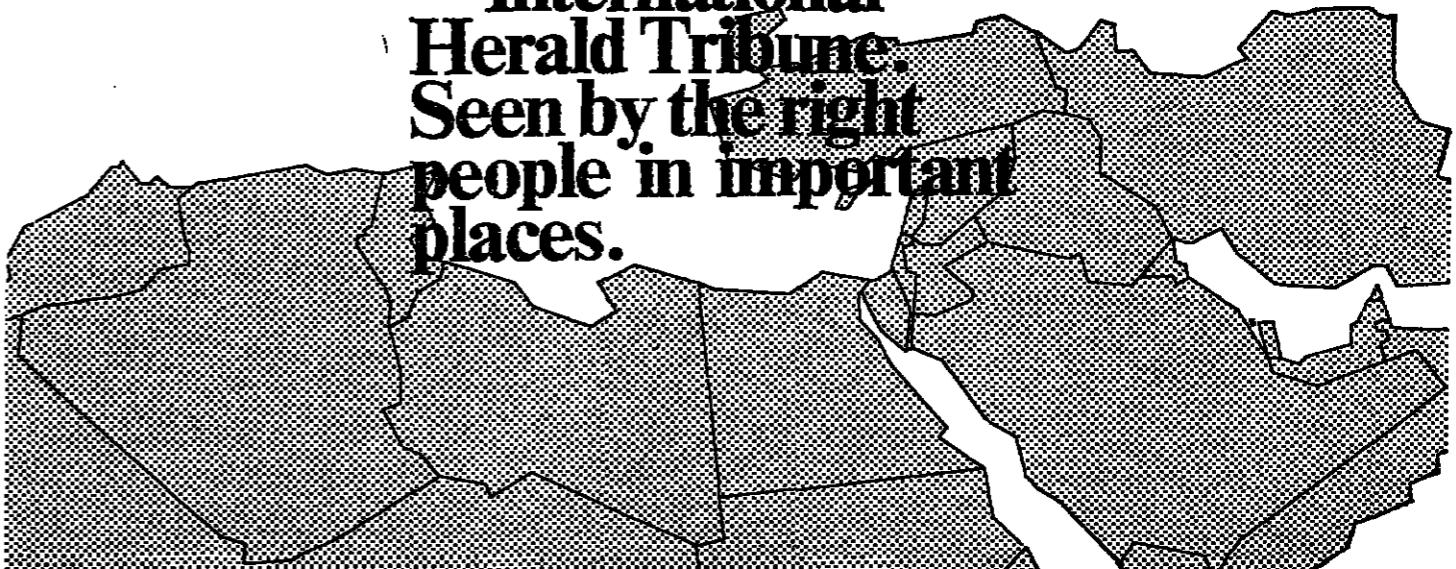
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**Obituaries****William H. Draper, 80, Active In Population Control Work**

NEW YORK, Dec. 27 (NYT).—William H. Draper Jr., 80, who had held a number of high governmental positions, died of a heart attack yesterday in Naples, Fla.

At his death, he held several positions dealing with the population situation—honorary chairman of the Population Crisis Committee, of which he was a founder; honorary vice-chairman of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America; a member of the governing body of the International Planned Parenthood Federation and U.S. representative on the United Nations Population Commission.

He had several careers—investigator, diplomat with the title of American special representative in Europe, a member of the War Department general staff, a regimental commander in the

**Salyut Reported Functioning Well For Second Day**

MOSCOW, Dec. 27 (UPI).—The Salyut-4 scientific station entered its second day in space today conducting experiments which could prove Soviet efficiency in the joint U.S.-Soviet space flight in July.

Soviet scientists launched the earth-orbiting station yesterday and said that its equipment was functioning normally. Today, they launched Cosmos-701, the second Cosmod craft launched in two days and the fifth this month.

The news agency Tass made no mention of any plans to launch a manned spaceship but previous Salyuts have been used by cosmonauts to test link-up techniques.

The Tass announcement said that the aim of the Salyut experiment was "to further test the design, onboard systems and equipment of orbital stations and to conduct scientific and technical studies and experiments in conditions of space flight."

The Tass announcement said that Salyut-4 was circling the earth every 89.1 minutes and was being tracked by monitoring stations in the Soviet Union and by a ship in the Atlantic Ocean.

Pacific, a military government economic adviser in Germany and under secretary of the Army.

**M. G. (Dan) Beard**

NEW YORK, Dec. 27 (NYT).—M.G. (Dan) Beard, 78, who contributed importantly to the development of transport aircraft, died yesterday in the Veterans Hospital in Northport, N.Y.

Mr. Beard, who retired from American Airlines as assistant vice-president in 1964, worked with Douglas and Boeing engineers in the design and flight testing of both piston and jet aircraft. In 1965, he was named director of flight operations research for the Flight Safety Foundation.

In World War II, he was chief of military engineering pilots with American Airlines Military Operations Department, working with teams that surveyed the transatlantic route. He was one of five members of a crew that received the Air Medal for making the initial survey flight to North Africa by way of Presque Isle, Maine, for the Army Air Transport Command.

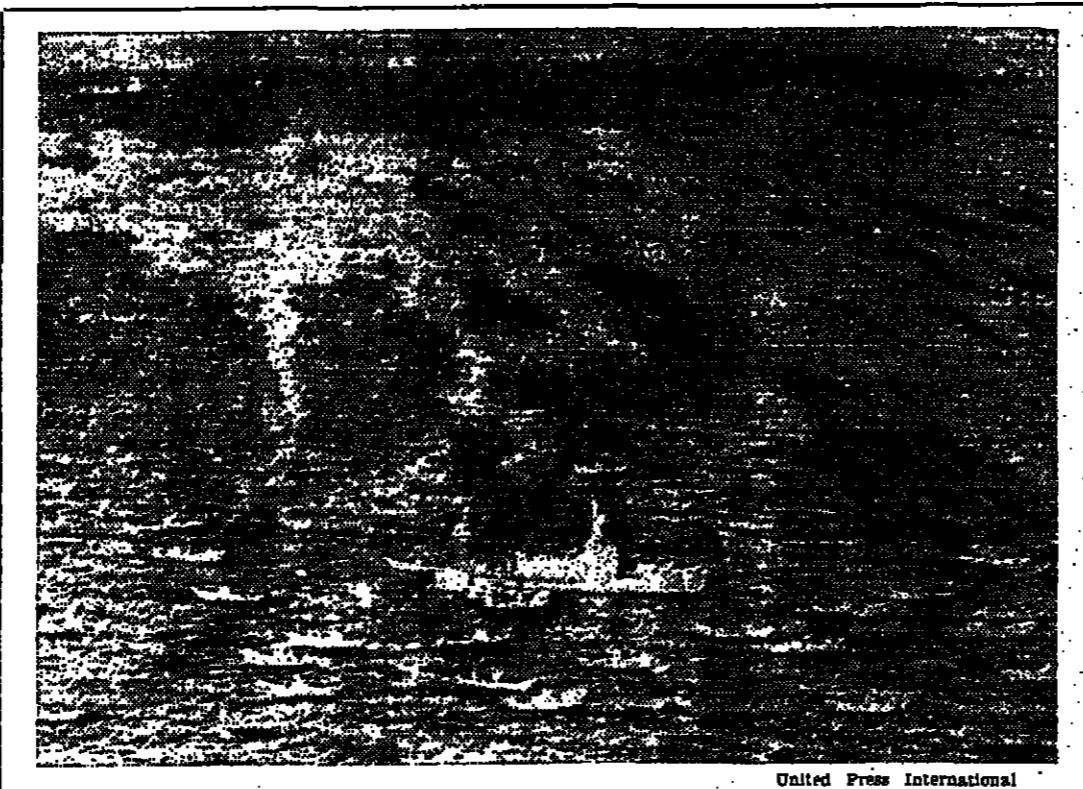
**Seoul Police Use Tear Gas to Halt Veterans' Protest**

SEOUL, Dec. 27 (Reuters).—Riot police using tear gas ousted about 100 war veterans from a hotel in the southern city of Taegu today after a 10-hour sit-in protest directed at opposition leader Kim Young Sam, press reports reaching here said.

Mr. Kim, the head of the New Democratic party, was in the hotel with about 10 other opposition parliamentarians. All were confined to fourth-floor rooms while the veterans locked the hotel's front door and barricaded other doors with chairs.

The protesters complained that some opposition members had called veterans "cripples" and they wanted Mr. Kim to identify the members and apologize.

Police made two attempts to dislodge the veterans. Four policemen were hurt in the efforts before the tear-gas attack. Mr. Kim was apparently unharmed.



United Press International  
**TROUBLED WATERS**—A leak from a petrochemical complex last week has turned 83 miles of the inland sea off the southwestern coast of Japan into a mess of oil and slime. Ships above are mobilizing for clean-up job, but slick is still spreading.

**Jack Benny Dies at 80 of Cancer**

(Continued from Page 1)  
the 1962 Warner Bros. film "Gypsy."

Other movies included "The Horn Blows at Midnight," "George Washington Slept Here," "Charlie's Aunt," "Suck Benny Rides Again" and "To Be or Not Be."

Mr. Benny made light of his film performances by insisting he should have received an Oscar.

It was during Mr. Benny's early days in vaudeville that he found his future was in comedy, not music. He discovered that a dry, flat delivery, a deadpan expression and an airy gesture were far more compelling to his audience than his fiddle.

His theatrical apprenticeship was served mostly on the stages of Chicago but it wasn't until after his discharge from the Navy at the close of World War I that his fame grew.

He built a bumbling, tightwad characterization, a Maxwell automobile and a basement vault into comic excellence in the golden

days of radio, then carried them onto television.

His television series was canceled in 1964 but Mr. Benny continued with special shows and guest appearances. His next program was to have been an NBC special on Jan. 23.

Mr. Benny's honors included the Laurel Leaf award of the American Composers Alliance, the March of Dimes Humanitarian Award and a special Academy of Television Arts and Sciences award for the best continuing performance by a male entertainer.

The "Jack Benny Show" won an Emmy in 1969 as the best comedy series on television. Earlier honors had been heaped on him for his radio show.

**Last Appearance**

His last public appearance was Dec. 8, when he attended a session of the Hollywood Women's Press Club to receive its annual Louella Parsons Award for service to the film community.

Already gravely ill, he was in too much pain to remain longer

than a few minutes. The award was accepted by George Burns, a long-time friend.

Mr. Benny's humor was winning raves even in the most recent of his performances. A Los Angeles Times critic commented after a Las Vegas show:

"Benny could quote from Webster's and stop, stare at his audience, say, 'Well' and leave them laughing."

He played the tightwad image to the end. At one point in his performance, he walked onstage carrying a drink, then admitted he didn't use alcohol.

He handed his glass to a ring-

side member of the audience, who accepted it. The comedian then said: "That will be \$1."

Mr. Benny once told a London interviewer: "I've been lucky so far because I've never stopped working. I've known so many men who retired and immediately got ill."

"You must never lose the excitement of life."

Later, he added:

"I don't indulge in nostalgia. To hell with the past. It's gone. Thinking about it makes you older quicker than anything."

"I'm only concerned with how good my last show was and how good my next two will be."

© Los Angeles Times.

**After 5th District Capital Falls****Thieu Sees All-Out Drive by Communists**

DALAT, South Vietnam, Dec. 27 (Reuters).—President Nguyen Van Thieu said today that Communist forces had launched an offensive throughout South Vietnam and the situation was "very serious."

The President's announcement followed the capture by Communist troops supported by tanks, of their fifth district capital in less than two weeks, the Saigon command said.

The latest Communist gain was Don Linh, about 30 miles N. of Saigon.

Military sources said the fall of the town yesterday gives the Communists control of most of Phuoc Long Province, stretching toward Saigon from the Cambodian border.

**At Military Academy**

President Thieu, who was addressing graduates at the military academy in this central Vietnamese mountain resort, said the current fighting was an offensive, not just the usual violations of the 1973 cease-fire agreement.

He called on civilians and soldiers to adopt "the fighting spirit of 1972," the year the Communists last launched a major offensive.

He said the "armed aggression" throughout the country was the initiative of the North Vietnamese, working through their cadre in South Vietnam.

The fall of Don Linh occurred less than 24 hours after Communist forces captured Can Tho, a district town about 70 miles east of Saigon, leaving most of two government militia battalions unaccounted for, military sources said.

Mr. Thieu said the "armed aggression" was aimed at the Saigon government, which had been an aggressor against the South Vietnamese people.

"We have problems and there is no doubt about it," Capt. Ngoc Phuc, an officer with the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said in an interview. "The situation is deteriorating, especially in the (Mekong) Delta. The cut in American aid has hurt us. With the present aid, if there is an enemy offensive, it is possible that it won't be enough."

American analysts agree. "The situation looks bad," an official said. Another added that the present level of U.S. aid to South Vietnam has become "dangerously low."

These assessments were made at a time when both the Saigon regime and American officials here are pressing for more military aid from the U.S. Congress.

The Ford administration had originally requested \$1.45 billion in military aid and \$751 million in economic aid for South Vietnam. But the figures, as whittled down by Congress, now call for only \$700 million in military aid and \$450 million in economic aid.

**Laos Opium Rebellion**

VIENTIANE, Laos, Dec. 27 (AP).—The coalition government sent a delegation of Communists and rightists today to negotiate with rebel soldiers holding the border town of Ban Houei Sal in northwest Laos.

A spokesman for the Communist Pathet Lao denied a report that more than 300 Pathet Lao troops had moved into the town to support the rebels. But the intelligence chief for the Lao Army, Brig. Gen. Thao Ly, insisted that Communist forces had advanced from the cease-fire line 20 miles northeast of Ban Houei Sal and moved into the town.

About 100 Lao Thaung tribesmen who were taken into the Lao Army earlier this year seized the town on Tuesday. They demanded, among other things, repeal of 1971 law banning the cultivation for sale of opium, the area's chief cash crop.

Both sides in Vientiane said

they hoped the dispute would be settled peacefully.

At least 15 American civilians are in Ban Houei Sal, apparently under house arrest. One of them is Jack Buxbaum, a U.S. Agency for International Development officer, who reported to the U.S. Embassy by radiotelephone that all the Americans were safe and well.

The rebels were formerly members of Gen. Vang Pao's army of tribesmen, which the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency financed.

They were taken into the Lao Army when the peace agreement between the royalists and the Pathet Lao banned foreign supporters of factional forces.

Ban Houei Sal is in the heart

**Saigon Reportedly Suffering Shortage of Military Supplies**

By Martin Schram

military reports. But from this spring through July and August, they were put under great strain by stepped-up Communist military activity. They suffered heavier casualties and lost control of many areas.

**Troops Fired**

In 1973, 1,100 South Vietnamese troops were killed, according to U.S. figures. As of the beginning of December, 1,500 had been killed and 1,281 had died in fighting so far in December.

The last two months have seen a deterioration in the South Vietnamese strength in the Mekong Delta, Capt. Phuc conceded. In a number of cases he acknowledged that troops fled—"without authorization," he called it. "We have had to withdraw from 600 outposts," he said. He defined an "outpost" as anywhere from 10 to 30 men or more.

Another measure of the deteriorating situation, Capt. Phuc said, was that tax collections by Viet Cong agents have been increasing. He cited two examples, in Vinh Long and Vinh Phuc. "These are areas which had been considered among the most pacified," he said.

An American official said that part of the problem stems from the fact that the South Vietnamese have been trying to emulate tactics used by U.S. troops here. But the difference was that the U.S. troops had no shortage of ammunition. "They watched us doing 'recon by fire.' [Firing a lot of shells into one area to force the enemy to show its location]," he said. The South Vietnamese tried to do the same thing but, he said, they just make their situation worse."

South Vietnamese and U.S. officials say the Communists have been able to keep their supply lines open from the North and through Laos. They have boosted their supplies and armor by 150 per cent since the cease-fire was signed, according to American statistics. Communist artillery ammunition increased greatly during this period and their anti-aircraft supplies jumped 250 per cent.

• A shortage of 175-mm and 105-mm shells has forced the South Vietnamese Army to ration its daily use of these to two shells per cannon.

• A shortage of jet fuel has led the Saigon military to order the grounding of its new F-5E aircraft in favor of the A-37, which is slower and has a shorter range. But the A-37 also is more maneuverable and burns less fuel.

From the time the Vietnam cease-fire agreement was signed in January, 1973, until early 1974, the South Vietnamese forces demonstrated increased confidence and ability, according to U.S. officials.

**Corridors Filled**

At Lisbon's main hospital, where most of the injured were taken, the corridors were filled with casualties and surgeons were performing emergency operations.

The manager of the Portuguese railroads, Jose Montoto, said there would be an official inquiry into the crash. He quoted witnesses as saying that the last car of the northbound train was "shaking" abnormally when it left the station.

A man who was in the last car said he had a feeling something was going to happen when the car started slipping, and he clutched his son to him.

"I tried to pull the alarm cord but just at that moment the crash came. I was only worried about my son, and I protected him with all my strength. Then I lost consciousness and when I woke up it was all tragedy," 45-year-old Manuel da Conceicao Silva said in the hospital later.

His 5-year-old son suffered slight head injuries.

A soldier, Cpl. Jose Joaquim Lopes, said it was a miracle that he had not been killed.

"I suddenly found myself with my left leg stuck underneath a seat. There were many people on top of me. I started screaming for people to let me out, but some could not move because they were dead," he said.

**Italian Press Strike**

ROMA, Dec. 27 (Reuters).—Romans will be without newspapers until Monday because of a 48-hour strike that began today over a pay dispute.

The developments in Venice have strengthened a widespread belief in Italy that a Communist role in the national government is likely, maybe even inevitable in the near future.

The Communist party is now well entrenched in local government. It runs one out of every eight Italian cities and towns and three of Italy's 10 regions.

The Christian Democratic party has long functioned as an anti-Communist force, reinforced by the Catholic Church. It has controlled all governments during the last 29 years. Right after World War II Christian Democrats governed Italy together with Communists, but the Communist party was ousted from the cabinet in 1947.

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**Conservation Efforts Log****Ancient Cathedrals in Britain Crumbling Under Pollution**

By Mark Meredith

LONDON, Dec. 27 (Reuters)—Britain's ancient cathedrals are in danger of decay, mainly from corrosion caused by air pollution.

The priceless 12th- and 13th-century stained-glass windows of Canterbury Cathedral have rotted away. The towers of St. Paul's Cathedral in London started to lean a few years ago because of traffic vibrations and Winchester Cathedral's timbers were ravaged by death-watch beetles.

Movement detected in the east wall of Chichester Cathedral had to be stopped and the Norman Tower of Ely Cathedral needed to be propped up.

In many cathedrals, chunks of stone have fallen from flying buttresses, carved masonry crumbles at a touch and huge supporting columns have subsided slowly into the ground.

**Problem Tackled**

Scientists and conservationists are tackling the problem of preserving these landmarks and many Britons are asking why the deterioration was allowed to happen.

A debate is brewing and critics have started to query the ability of the Church of England to handle the increasingly technological requirements of cathedral upkeep.

Some conservation experts say more state controls are necessary to stop further dangerous decay in the cathedrals.

On Dec. 10, the Most Rev. Donald Coggan, the new archbishop of Canterbury, launched an appeal for £25 million (about \$41 million) to restore Canterbury Cathedral.

**Stained-Glass Windows**

Only recently did the administration of Canterbury Cathedral become aware of a serious threat to the magnificent stained-glass windows.

"This has been a blind spot, I'm afraid," said Frederick Cole, a glass-restoration expert who was called in to head the repair operation.

"For years we have gone on the assumption that glass did not deteriorate but industrial pollution has changed this," he said.

Sulphur dioxide from the smokestacks of factories has mixed with rain to form corrosive acids which have penetrated the glass and, in places, eaten it completely away. The process has been going on for the last 20 years.

Experts have been consulted on maintaining the cathedral's stone.

**Swedes Prosper, Weigh Role In World of Economic Woes**

By Richard Eder

STOCKHOLM, Dec. 27 (NYT)—There is tremendous value attached to light in the long nights, from the candles flickering in the avenues on St. Lucy's Day to the blinding shop windows after Christmas. The big stores display luxury with a grace and profusion that London stores have lost and New York stores may be losing.

Stockholm is the Christmas past of the Western world. It is what things used to be like in many other places only a few years ago.

By most measurements, Sweden's standard of living is the highest in the world and, so far, it has felt few of the troubles that have hit elsewhere. Inflation has been running at a little more than 8 per cent annually—not starting rise for a country used to about 6 per cent a year. Exports are booming—demand for the main exports, steel and wood products, is steady.

Even though the Social Democratic government of Premier Olof Palme is a minority regime, it seems remarkably stable, borrowing parliamentary support now from the Communists, now from the right. When there is a tie vote, lots are drawn. An occasional government defeat is not taken hard.

**Less Solid**

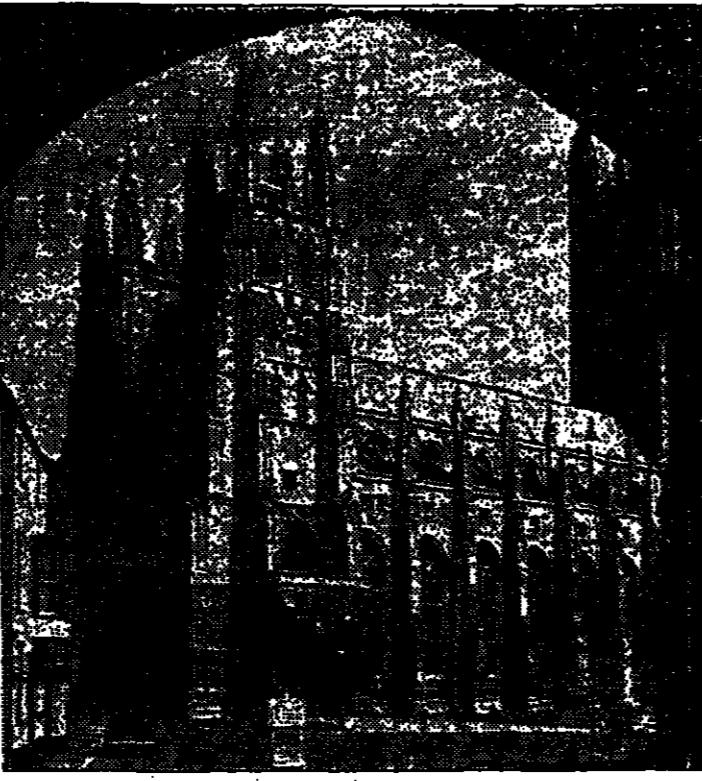
This flourishing condition is perhaps less solid than it looks. Materially, although Sweden's considerable reserve agricultural capacity and its fairly conservative society would probably enable it to weather a world crash, it would be heavily affected. Psychologically, the contrast between the prosperity of the Swedes and the economic troubles elsewhere are not completely reassuring to them. It is like living in a brightly lit house on a dark street. "We have a bad conscience."

**3 Bombs Explode In El Salvador**

SAN SALVADOR, Dec. 27 (AP)—At least three bombs exploded yesterday in three El Salvador cities damaging government offices and the headquarters of the ruling National Conciliation party. Police said that there were no injuries.

The Popular Liberation Front, an Marxist clandestine organization, left notes taking responsibility for the attacks. It said that the bombings were an act of reprisal against the government "which is protecting the interests of the reactionary sectors," and authorities reported.

The government ordered a nationwide police mobilization to track down the terrorists.



Canterbury Cathedral's stained-glass windows endangered.

**TV News Programs in Poland: Dull Propaganda Monotone**

WARSAW, Dec. 27 (AP)—How do you make an insomniac sleep? Force him to watch the main news program of Polish state television.

As with most people in Eastern Europe, Poles will openly admit that their television is deadly dull with news the prime target of unofficial criticism.

"When I see the news coming up, I just switch the box off," a student said.

But many of the 3 million visitors to Canterbury Cathedral each year pay to climb the huge central bell tower. And in St. Paul's, admission is charged to visit the whispering gallery inside the dome.

**Acropolis Gate Damaged**

ATHENS, Dec. 27 (AP)—A dangerous crack has appeared in the marble gateway to the Acropolis here. Culture Minister Constantine Trypanis said yesterday.

"The crack, in the northwest wall of the propylaea, was observed during conservation work on the Acropolis," Mr. Trypanis said.

"It was caused by iron bars, used 50 years ago to support the marble blocks of the gateway," the minister said. He said the bars became enlarged with rust and cracked the marble blocks.

Experts have been consulted on maintaining the cathedral's stone.

**Balancing Act Seen in Chinese Army Promotions**

By H.D.S. Greenway

HONG KONG, Dec. 27 (WP)—During the last two weeks the Chinese have named four new deputy chiefs of staff of the People's Liberation Army.

The new appointments are, in the opinion of China watchers here, probably the result of some hard political horse trading in Peking, possibly leading up to the appointment of a new defense minister and a new chief of staff.

There has been no defense minister or chief of staff of the People's Liberation Army, which covers all services, since former defense minister Lin Piao died, allegedly while trying to defect to the Soviet Union in 1971. His chief of staff was subsequently dismissed.

The naming of a defense minister and a chief of staff might be one of the functions of the long-awaited National People's Congress, and the recent naming of four deputies is probably a result of compromise among the various political factions within the Peking leadership.

The most important of the four new appointees is thought to be Yang Cheng-wen, a former acting chief of staff who was purged by leftist radicals during the "cultural revolution" of 1966-1968. He was "rehabilitated" early this year.

**Once Purged**

Wang Shang-jung, another recent appointee, was also purged during the "cultural revolution" and rehabilitated earlier this year.

The third new deputy chief of staff, Hu Wei, was never purged, however, and was even held up as an example of how an army officer should support the left. He has gone from promotion to promotion in the army and is also an alternate member of the Communist Party's Central Committee.

Second item—a report on the Polish Baltic coast city of Szczecin and its state of development.

"Particularly important is the constantly growing link of the party with the working class, the increased participation of workers in the work of the party," the reader said.

Airline crashes—especially of Communist-flag craft—robberies, government scandals, murders and Western political criticism of socialist states is viewed by these regimes as "bourgeois" news.

What the Pole sees on his television news is clip after clip of farmers digging potatoes, women milking cows and steel workers pouring molten metal into casts.

The film is usually accompanied by a running commentary of endless production statistics.

"If the words 'investment,' 'production' and 'toms' didn't exist, our news readers would be mute," a Pole said. "Our news is so boring nobody in the country knows what's going on after having listened to it."

The new appointments bring the number of known deputy chiefs of staff to eight. Two generals, usually considered to be the first and second deputies, have been conspicuously absent from normal ceremonial occasions during the last month, however. They are Chang Teai-chin and Hsiang Chung-hua.

**8 Deputy Chiefs**

The new appointments bring the number of known deputy chiefs of staff to eight. Two generals, usually considered to be the first and second deputies, have been conspicuously absent from normal ceremonial occasions during the last month, however. They are Chang Teai-chin and Hsiang Chung-hua.

Radiation is described as likely to cause headaches, nausea, and a diminution in the white corpuscle count in the blood—but nothing worse, unless it is "strong," in which case those affected are in danger of their lives and "should be hospitalized immediately."

The new appointments became known only because the four men, along with their new titles, were mentioned in reports on various events in Peking by the Chinese news agency.

The appointments tell us little about who may end up with the important Ministry of Defense. There is speculation that the party chairman, Mao Tse-tung, may want a civilian, or perhaps a member of the radical left wing

of the party, and that the army is resisting. There almost certainly has been resistance by the army to some of the attempts to exert civilian control over the military, as evidenced by the Chinese press in recent months.

Although individual commanders, such as Mr. Yang and Mr. Wang, may have suffered at the hands of the radical left during the "cultural revolution," the military emerged all the more

powerful when the radical left was suppressed in 1969. Since Marshal Lin's death in 1971, civilians in the Communist party leadership have been chipping away at the army's power.

**Fewer Army Men**

There were fewer army men represented in the 10th Central Committee, chosen last year, than after the 8th party congress in 1969. The percentage of army men in the top provincial leadership—party secretaries and deputy secretaries—has dropped from around 55 per cent in 1971 to about 45 per cent today.

In December, 1973, the central leadership made a major move to reduce further the influence of the military by shuffling eight regional commanders from their bases of power into new regional commands. In most cases these were straight trade-offs.

It was felt then that the move was made to destroy the independent power bases of the regional commanders without destroying the commanders themselves. Recent wall posters in Nanking, for example, have accused the former commander of having tried to set up an independent kingdom there.

Before the switch, most of the regional commanders also served as party first secretary in their home provinces. In their new provinces, however, none has been made party first secretary, which is further evidence of the attempt to bring the military under civilian control.

A year ago, the No. 3 man in China—Wang Hung-wen, 39—allegedly issued a report which was distributed throughout the army down to regimental level. The report addressed itself to the problem of how to evaluate the "cultural revolution" and Mr. Wang is supposed to have said that it was wrong to evaluate veteran cadres in terms of seniority instead of performance in the class struggle.

**Ma's Birthday**

PEKING, Dec. 27 (Reuters)—Chairman Mao turned 81 yesterday but, as always, the occasion passed without public celebration or comment.

It is a longstanding rule of the Chinese Communists that personal anniversaries should not be made an occasion for public ceremony. Mr. Mao himself has always avoided a personality cult except during the "cultural revolution."

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**17 Held in Port Said For Opposing Sadat**

CAIRO, Dec. 27 (Reuters)—Seventeen persons have been arrested in Port Said on charges of inciting the public against President Anwar Sadat's regime, the Interior Ministry announced here today.

The announcement described the accused as extremists. It said they gathered at a theater Monday night, tore down advertisements for a play and stuck up hostile pamphlets.

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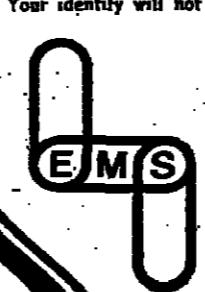
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## New Chance for SALT

Rapid corrective action has followed the widespread criticism of the high strategic arms ceilings originally fixed for a decade by the Vladivostok accord.

Within 18 days of the Ford-Brezhnev agreement, Secretary of State Kissinger has now revealed a significant improvement was negotiated in the still-secret *uide mémorandum* that put the oral Vladivostok deal into written form. The change opens the way for early negotiation and implementation of reductions in nuclear forces where the original provided only for "further negotiations beginning no later than 1980-81" on possible reductions of strategic arms "in the period after 1985."

This procedural opening needs prompt invocation. That is a modest objective, for the "reductions" that are being held out for the future are not cutbacks from existing nuclear arms levels but merely reductions in the extremely high ceilings set by the Vladivostok accord. Those ceilings sanction enormous new missile and bomber programs over the next 10 years, programs evidently that are roughly what the military on both sides planned before Vladivostok. Cutbacks will be less expensive—and much more likely—if they can be made before the deployments occur.

Contrary to President Ford's assertion, the United States has no "obligation to step up to" the Vladivostok ceilings of 2,400 bombers and missiles, of which 1,320 missiles may be equipped with MIRV multiple warheads. As former Defense Secretary Robert McNamara pointed out long ago, 400 nuclear warheads delivered on target would inflict 74 million fatalities and destroy three-fourths of Soviet industry.

The United States has more than 12 times that number of warheads deployed today atop its 800 MIRV missiles alone. It also has 900 single-warhead strategic missiles, plus about 500 strategic bombers equipped with more than 2,000 nuclear bombs and short-range missiles. The potential of these weapons exceeds comprehension.

The Soviet Union, with about 2,400 strategic missiles deployed, none of them with MIRVs as yet, is determined to start replacing them next year with big new MIRV missiles in numbers to match the United States.

THE NEW YORK TIMES.

## Chairs for Castro

It is ridiculous for the United States to exacerbate its already strained relations with Canada in defense of a bankrupt policy of trying to embargo trade with Cuba. Yet that is what is involved in the instructions sent on Washington's advice by Litton Industries to its Canadian subsidiary to cancel a \$500,000 Cuban order for desks, chairs, and filing cabinets.

This kind of nonsense appeared to be at an end last April when Washington decided to allow Argentine subsidiaries of Chrysler, Ford, and General Motors to export 40,000 cars and trucks to Cuba. If the State Department rationale was valid then—that the exception was necessary in the interest of "good relations with Argentina"—what about Washington's not-so-good relations with its most important trading partner, Canada?

In fact, the whole hemisphere knows that Washington relented on the automotive deal because the late President Juan Peron warned that otherwise he would nationalize the Argentine plants of the American firms and order them to fulfill the \$150-million contract with the Castro regime. Earlier this year, Washington took no formal action when a Canadian firm, 52-per-cent owned by Studebaker-Worthington Inc., went ahead with a \$15-million contract to supply Cuba with railway locomotives.

THE NEW YORK TIMES.

## International Opinion

### Egypt's Commitments

Units of the Egyptian Navy have now passed through the whole length of the canal from the north southwards. But the Cairo government refuses to open the canal for non-military traffic. Nor does it hide the intentions not to open it while Israeli forces are stationed along the lines established in the disengagement accord. The American diplomacy is thus helping Egypt in behavior which fully contradicts the disengagement accord. This American assistance is given to Cairo at a time when the United States is telling us again and again that Egypt is ready for another partial agreement. Washington owes an explanation of her strange accommodation to Cairo's wishes. Whoever desires to persuade us to make any further commitment toward Egypt should first make sure that Egypt will honor her own commitments towards us and towards the United States, and cease to encourage Egypt's evasions.

—From *Ha'aretz*, (Tel Aviv).

## In the International Edition

### Seventy-Five Years Ago

December 28, 1899

WASHINGTON—President McKinley today announced his intention of sending the first of the Lafayette memorial dollars, as a token of friendliness and goodwill to the French President. These memorial dollars have been struck in order that their sale at \$2 each may add to the School Children's Fund for the Lafayette monument in Paris.

### Fifty Years Ago

December 28, 1924

RIGA—The Christmas pie, which in Russia has the same place of honor that is usually reserved for the turkey in most Christian countries, reappeared on many tables throughout the Soviet domain this year for the first time since the Revolution seven years ago. Some churches were also allowed to open in Moscow and Leningrad.



'It Says Here the Government Is Going to Let Us Buy Gold.'

## Giscard III—Evolutionist

By C.L. Sulzberger

**PARIS**—The basic goal of President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing is to create a more flexible French society that is able, without internal tension, to adapt more readily to the social and economic changes of the present and future world. This is obviously an abstract statement, but the President evidently sees the problems involved as also abstract.

He is represented as wishing to loosen things up from certain rigidities of form because France has in some instances adjusted too late to recent global changes and the process is far from finished. This old country must improve its economic and social health to progress more effectively, like a swimmer in the sea. It is the government's job to insure that the people recognize this and accept the necessary measures.

Although Giscard himself comes from the privileged upper establishment, he readily acknowledges there is considerable inequality in France's contemporary social structure. He apparently feels that this gap is now being closed under his leadership but admits the process is painfully slow.

He hopes to inspire further reform measures early in 1975 following up on such initial steps as the introduction of legalized abortion, an audacious move in a Catholic country. The successful campaign for enactment of this law was personally masterminded by the President.

The goal defined by Giscard is a genuinely liberal and advanced society for France. This admittedly is difficult to define. In a structural sense, he seems to think the key is in multiplicity of responsibility at all levels of the French political and social body, which implies a long retreat from the tradition of centralized authority.

It would appear that the essential of the liberal state as viewed by Giscard, is that it must be nonbureaucratic and that all its decisions should be taken only after free and open debate. A strong executive must continue to make ultimate choices, and in this sense he views the growing tendency to increase executive authority in democracies as imposed by complex world conditions. But he also accords to legislative discussion and vigor a greater role than previous Fifth Republic presidents acknowledged.

Wedded to this loosening-up process, Giscard sees a special role of style (which as discussed in an earlier column) would seek to produce a possibly more effective political method. Part of this stylistic trend envisions increasing emphasis on France's rich cultural history. Next spring the government will inaugurate a special festival of the arts, stressing music and drama.

But, of course, all these hopeful conceptions depend upon the economic health of France, which, like that of other European countries, is seriously menaced by inflation, growing unemployment,

labor unrest and the threat of worse to come. In this uneasy realm however, France seems to have emerged unscathed from its first confrontation, signalized by a wave of strikes during the past autumn.

### Political Strike

The view from the Elysée is that the state won this initial showdown, which, it feels, was definitely marked by political motives. The analysis concedes that the strike wave began spontaneously for economic reasons.

However, it was then deliberately maneuvered into an anti-government test by Giscard's leftist opposition. When the latter sought to produce a general strike, featured by closure of all rail transport, the operation failed.

One conclusion, apparently, is that political opponents, seeking to embarrass the administration, made a bizarre mistake by putting a major strike effort into the postal and telegraphic services, where there was no critical wage problem. They certainly tied up the French economy, outlasted the strike, according to presidential thinking, failed in its political and announced economic objectives.

It may be recalled that in May 1968, when a series of strikes, student demonstrations and political manifestations almost overthrew De Gaulle's regime, the labor unions came into the game very late, after the students had already become massively engaged. In fall 1974, the students refrained from any participation in the affair.

Giscard himself seemingly be-

### Letters

#### Oil 'Blackmail'

William Buckley Jr. sees the oil-producing countries as profit-seekers engaging in punitive acts and oil blackmail (IHT, Dec. 11). He proposes a discriminatory tax on oil to be paid by consumers as a means of inducing the oil-producing states to ease down their prices and to fracture their cartel.

Gibl words conceal hard truths, and faulty premises lead to faulty conclusions. Oil-producing countries are not "profiteers" because they are not selling products they have made or bought at lower prices. They are selling their only worthwhile asset—oil, one that will be gone forever in some 40 or 50 years. Their future survival depends upon what they can get in return for this asset and what use they can make of what they get to build their own backward economies.

These countries have a "surplus" only in the sense that their economies do not at the present time permit them to absorb all the funds being received as capital investments for building up those economies. Not only do these states have no self-interest in pumping the huge quantities of oil demanded of them by the oil-consuming lands, it would obviously benefit them if they were to cut production and conserve their "life-blood" for the future.

And it should come as no surprise if they do cut production rather than lower prices if Buckley's economic and political shambolisms should come to pass.

If Buckley wants to talk about "profiteers" he can refer to the

oil companies who as middlemen

make huge profits through buying and selling on, the selling of which

does not deplete the assets of their already rich home countries. In the light of Ford's and Kissinger's recent threats and now Buckley's ill-advised scheme, isn't the word "blackmail" being misused? M. WELTMAN Lund, Sweden

#### CIA's Spooks

Though apparently sorry that the CIA has been found out yet again, William Colby, the current director, is happy (IHT, Dec. 23) that it was his own junior employees who raised "the red flag."

But aren't there certain spooks who are supposed to be able to detect and delete the CIA's Freudian slips? One naturally thinks of their Mr. Angleton, a "Yale graduate who once edited a poetry magazine . . ."

DAVID DORRANCE Paris

#### A Correction

Re the letter on Thursday's editorial page from Lowell Bennett entitled "Who 'Holed' Whom," the editors should not have taken Mr. Bennett's version to heart. Mr. Sulzberger actually wrote in his column of Dec. 18 the word, "ROILED." Unfortunately the type font was not clear and many readers—as obviously Mr. Bennett might have seen the word as "jolted." We apologize to Mr. Sulzberger and to Mr. Bennett.

## Fulbright's View Morality and Tolerance

By J. William Fulbright

The following is excerpted from a speech by Sen. J. William Fulbright (D-Ark.) before the National Press Club a week ago.

THE heart of the matter is a surge of moral extremism in our attitude toward politics and political leaders. The genesis, I have no doubt, was Vietnam, followed by Watergate, both of which inevitably undercut confidence in our national leadership. Moral indignation, however, even justified moral indignation, has a tendency to become vindictive and self-righteous. Mistakes of judgment come to be perceived as premeditated malevolence, and an interest in correcting mistakes gives way to an obsession with punishing the malefactors, with giving them their just deserts.

My own view is that no one should get everything he deserves—the world would become a charnel house. Looking back on the Vietnam war, it never occurred to me that President Johnson was guilty of anything worse than bad judgment. He deceived the Congress, and he deceived me personally, over the Gulf of Tonkin episode in 1964 and his purposes in the election of '64. I resented that, and I am glad the deceit was exposed, but I never wished to carry the matter beyond exposure. I never had the slightest sympathy with those who called President Johnson and his advisers "war criminals."

### No Morality Play

We should stop conducting our affairs like a morality play. Lying and dirty tricks are intolerable not because of what they do to the trickster's soul, but because they disrupt our society and its institutions. Because they do, it is essential that they be deterred, but this can usually be accomplished by exposure, embarrassment and censure; it does not require hunting down the malefactors to their utter ruin. An intolerance of lying can and should be reconciled with a degree of tolerance for lies, considering that few of us get through an ordinary day without trampling the truth once or twice.

In a democracy we ought to try to think of our public servants not as objects of adulation or of revilement, but as servants in the literal sense, to be lauded or censured, retained or dispensed with, according to the competence with which they do the job they were hired to do. Bitter disillusionment with our leaders is the other side of the coin of worshipping them. If we did not

expect our leaders to be demigods, we would not be nearly as shocked by their failures and transgressions.

The media have a special responsibility for the restoration of civility in these matters, not only because they have contributed to the incivility, but also because there is no one to correct journalistic excesses except the members of the profession themselves. The media have become a fourth branch of government in every respect except for their immunity from checks and balances. This is as it should be—I can conceive of no restraint on the press which would not be worse than the excesses to which I have referred. But because you cannot and should not be restrained from outside, you have a special responsibility to restrain yourselves.

After a long era of divisiveness and acrimony, we are in need of a reaffirmation of the social contract among people, government and the media. The essence of that contract is a measure of voluntary restraint, an implicit agreement among the major groups and interests in our society that no one will apply their powers to the fullest. For all the ingredients of our system of checks and balances, our ultimate protection against tyranny is the fact that we are a people who have not wished to tyrannize one another. "The republican form of government," wrote Herbert Spencer in 1861, "is the highest form of government: but because of this it requires the highest type of human nature—a type nowhere at present existing." We have shown in times of adversity in the past that we are capable of this "highest type of human nature." Let us call it into existence once again—we have never needed it more.

The International Herald Tribune welcomes letters from readers. Short letters have a better chance of being published. All letters are subject to condensation for space reasons. Anonymous letters will not be considered for publication. Writers may request that their letters be signed only with initials but preference will be given to those fully signed and bearing the writer's complete address.

## An Age of 'Assaultive Politics'

By George F. Will

WASHINGTON.—In 1968, Prof.

Alexander Bickel of the Yale Law School was invited to address a gathering of Yale alumni on the subject "What Is Happening to Morality Today?" He said: "It threatens to engulf us."

He meant that we are living in "an age of assaultive politics." The legal order is battered by a prodigality of moral causes, each of which is immoderately righteous, and gifted at rationalizing disobedience of the law and disregard of the traditions of civility. Bickel returned to this theme in the January, 1974, issue of *Commentary* magazine, in the most brilliant political essay of the year, "Watergate and the Legal Order."

He argued "that much of what happened to the legal and social order in the 15 years or so before Watergate was prologue." In those years three distinct groups—white Southern militants, the civil rights movement, the white middle class anti-war movement—preached disobedience to law and practiced what they preached.

Watergate, Bickel said, was not

"the people." Thus, as Bickel noted, it was "utterly inevitable" that such a populist fixation should tend toward the concentration of power in that single institution which has the most immediate link to the largest constituency—the U.S. presidency.

So, Bickel said, we wound up with "a Gaullist presidency . . . needing no excuse for aggregating power to itself beside the excuse that it could do more effectively what other institutions, particularly Congress, did not do very rapidly or very well, or under particular political circumstances would not do at all. This was a leaf from the Warren court's book . . . I don't know when Mr. Nixon caught the liberals bathing, but he did walk off with their clothes and stood forth wearing the plebs of the presidency . . ."

### Episode to Tradition

The truth that Bickel wanted us to see, before it is too late, is that Watergate was an episode in what is becoming a tradition. It was an eruption in a new form, of a familiar anti-institutional righteousness, the assaultive politics of the populist impulse. Thus Watergate, although past, is prologue, part of the engulfing stream of moral righteousness.

But the truth Bickel wanted us to see is an unwelcome, and hence an unheeded, truth in this year-end atmosphere of national self-congratulation about "surviving" Watergate.

Well, Hobbes said, is truth seen too late. Republican—at least fortunate republics—can be saved from damnation by a few constitutionalists like Bickel. But threats to republics are many and constant. Great constitutionalists are few and mortal. Alexander Bickel, the keenest public philosopher of our time, died of cancer late in his 45th year.

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**THE ART MARKET****A Rare Collection of Work From Nigeria Goes on Sale**

By Souren Melikian

**PARIS** (IHT)—For the first time, a whole collection of works from Nigeria—not just a couple of pieces—has come up for sale in Paris. The auction, held last week, went virtually unnoticed, doubtless a result of the present atmosphere of disillusionment on the art market.

Two sales of primitive art were conducted by Guy Louder, assisted by expert Charles Raton at Hotel Drouot, with 221 lots of sculpture from Africa and the South Seas.

The first part was the entire André Schoeller collection of African art; the second was of mixed provenance but included some unique pieces.

The Schoeller collection was exceptional because of the personality of the collector and the objects themselves. Schoeller, 40, an expert in modern art with primitive art as a secondary specialty, is the son of a connoisseur and expert in African art. He ran a gallery of contemporary art from 1966 through 1969 and at the same time collected primitive art with great enthusiasm. In fact, the sale of 40 masks helped him over a difficult period, he says, when he still had his gallery.

The collection Schoeller sold at Drouot was begun in 1967 when the Sfara war (to the profit of Western dealers and collectors) made thousands of people refugees. The tribesmen took their most treasured possessions with them as they fled their villages. Gradually they were pressured to sell them to peddlers and middlemen, part of the African scene for many years.

**Reached Europe**

Later, the works crossed frontiers with ease at a time when authorities on both sides were preoccupied with war. Thousands

of works began reaching Europe, essentially Paris, the trade center for African art for the past half-century. Objects never seen on the European market were available.

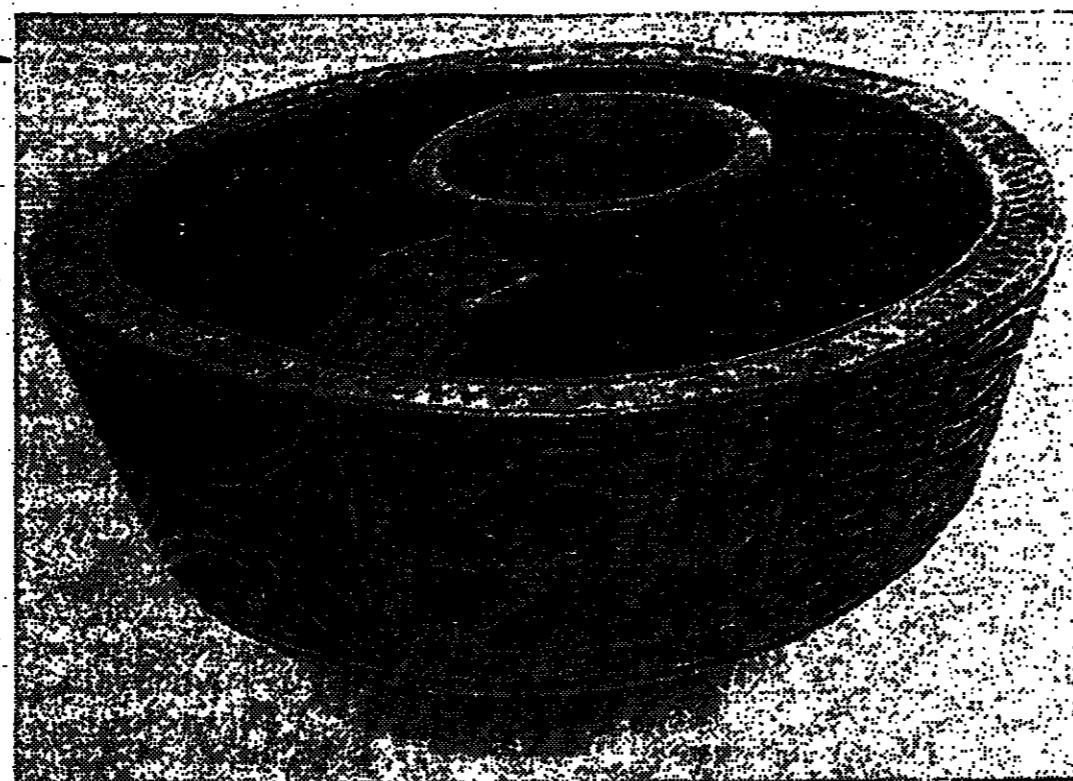
Still the prejudice against arts of the Nigerian tribes—with the single exception of Benin bronzes—lingered. Within seven years Schoeller picked the best, buying from dealers and at auctions whenever an object turned up. With independence of mind, he bought for plastic quality not for ethnographic interest. So outstanding was his achievement that when he decided to sell, William Fagg, former keeper of the ethnographic department of the British Museum and former consultant to the Museum of Primitive Art in New York, agreed to write the preface to the catalogue and share his knowledge of Nigeria with his friend, expert Charles Raton.

The scholarly catalogue itself is a milestone in art market annals. It provides art lovers with what can be called the newest and cheapest (20 francs) art book on the market.

**A Bowl**

The step taken by Raton in asking Fagg to do the preface is unusual as Fagg's acceptance. And it is typical of Raton's modesty: The 80-year-old expert has spent the past half-century studying and buying African art. He was introduced to it in 1913 by the fauve painter André Derain. But Fagg's expertise proved crucial to the sale.

Pointing out No. 1 in the sale, a splendid divination bowl "from the Yoruba country," Raton said that he had bought a similar one some 40 years ago in Hamburg from the German explorer Leo



Divination bowl by Olowe, sold for 5,800 francs in Paris.

Frobennius, who assembled a fantastic collection in Berlin in 1898 and later discovered masterpieces of figurative art from Ile, Nigeria. Neither Frobennius nor Raton knew just what the bowl was. Fagg identified it, in spite of the inaccurate description, the price remaining 9,800 francs.

Indeed, Fagg is the only man who could have set the record straight on some crucial points. During several trips to Nigeria, he learned from Kenneth Murray, who created a fine museum of African art in Jos, Northern Nigeria, that African works were not always, as generally presumed, anonymous. He went out into Yoruba districts and found that carvers were known by name and that their works were sought after. In some areas of Eastern Yoruba, carvers who died up to 100 years ago are still remembered.

But the three masks in the Schoeller collection, Fagg said, are an unusual case of Yoruba craftsmen yielding to other influences. His identification, he says, is not speculation: He has been in that part of the Yoruba country and has seen the masks in No style being carved by Yorubas.

Schoeller's flair led him to acquire a piece which, according to Fagg, is the only one of its kind which can now be precisely identified: It is a divination bowl carved by Olowe of Ile, which is in the Edo district. Olowe's only other recorded work outside Nigeria is a pair of doors now in the British Museum. A square design, Fagg says, is his "signature."

As unusual were a series of three masks in geometrical form made in the Yoruba country. They are in the style of the Igbo people, who have spread along the coastal fringes of the Yoruba country and have penetrated it. The Yorubas have a strong, purely figurative art, and, unlike some other African cultures, do not normally fall under outside influence.

But the three masks in the Schoeller collection, Fagg said,

are known outside Nigeria, that none is likely to leave Nigeria again and that in Fagg's own estimation "this is an exceptionally old and fine specimen," the impressionistic work was cheap.

The same was true of nearly all of the best pieces. A large headpiece, carved in the form of a fantastic bird, 58 centimeters long from the Itsekiri tribe near the Yoruba country, went for 18,800 francs, which in Schöller's opinion was one third below the price it might have fetched. It was bought by a young picture dealer and expert, Patrice Trigano.

It is difficult to pass judgment on prices that have no parallels, but on the whole they appeared to be rather low. The biggest price of the day was 97,370 francs paid for a 51-centimeter-high mask from the Tsoo country. This was more than 50 per cent over Raton's estimate—and Fagg said that it was very high price. In the short run, no doubt, and in view of the present depression, if one knows that none is known outside Nigeria, that none is likely to leave Nigeria again and that in Fagg's own estimation "this is an exceptionally old and fine specimen," the impressionistic work was cheap.

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**Major Sculpture**

Next came a major sculpture of the Igbo tribe, 66.2 centimeters high. That made 4,870 francs and again the buyer was a Paris picture dealer, Henry Berggruen. The divination bowl by Olowe went to Fagg himself at only 5,800 francs. This low price reflects partly public unfamiliarity with this sort of work and, as every auction room habitué knows, absolute rarity never boosts prices. Partly, too, the low price reflects the market crisis. Very few pieces were bought by dealers for stock. Those picture dealers who made purchases were acting much as their predecessors had done at the turn of the century when they were collecting African art and selling cubist paintings.

Jacques Kerchache, the youngest dealer in the profession, bought a very rare statue from the Onitsha district of the Igbo country, for 5,230 francs. He is known to have a personal collection so this may have been a noncommercial buy. Simone de Monbrun gave 2,800 francs for an impressive Igbo mask.

On the whole, the great majority of works went to private buyers. Bargains were made—a fantastic Chamber mask from the Cameroun sold for 31,500 francs, only 40 per cent of the estimate.

The following day prices for the pieces of mixed provenance fell far lower. At 8,000 francs, a statue from the South Seas (the Papuan Gulf in New Guinea), the only one of its kind that Raton says can be called ancient, went for about half its worth.

Schoeller's name coupled with Fagg's signature helped the Schoeller collection sell at prices sufficiently high for Schoeller to come out of it very well. But, all the same, collectors will long remember the sale and, once the stomp is over, regret the lost opportunity.

Manet's "The Balcony," lent by the Louvre, is interesting for its crisp, emphatically geometric patterning, a main pyramid of figures, with smaller triangular motifs rotated in necklaces, crapes, bent elbows and the like, and, more boldly, in the metal balcony railing in front of the grouped figures.

"Chez le Père Lathuile," lent by a museum in Tournai, Belgium, is a delicious preface to a comic-opera seduction scene (Offenbach maybe?).

And totally enchanting, hanging alongside each other (but as they were hung only last year at the Chinese Art Institute), are Renoir's "Dance in the Country" and "Dance in the City," on loan from the Durand-Ruel collection in Paris.

What would have more sense was an imaginative, longer movie documenting the movement, commenting on specific pictures in the exhibition, and presented in a foyer gallery as an introduction to it. Everybody seeing the film would derive a maximum of informed pleasure from the exhibition itself without the distraction of lengthy labels. Even for those who saw the film and then skipped the exhibit, it wouldn't be the saying goes, be a total loss.

Oh, yes, the exhibition itself.

There are some not-to-be-overlooked highlights among the 20 works brought from abroad in an over-produced event that with-

**EMILY GENAUER****When Impressionism Is Drenched in Data**

**NEW YORK**—There isn't anything left to say about impressionism, but that didn't stop the Metropolitan from presenting a show assembled to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the first exhibition in Paris of the group of painters who later came to be called the impressionists. The museum says everything that's ever been said about them—and says it over and over again.

More important, it says it in ways that can only defeat the museum's main purpose—to bring to an ever larger public appreciation of the impressionists' art and understanding of what it was about, what it grew out of and where it led.

Chef among those defeating ways is the pictures being drenched in data. They come with the longest, most distracting wall labels imaginable, narrating information everybody deeply familiar with the movement knows, and those who don't know it all that well probably couldn't care less about. There's detailed identification of the people portrayed, quotes on how each work was received on its first showing by various factions and critics. (Proust hated it; Huygen loved it, who bought it even how it was framed. Most of the label material is nonvisual. Instead of drawing the reader's eye to the pictures, it makes for a separate, contained experience. The picture itself becomes not a central, aesthetic experience but convenient corroborative material for label data. For those who don't read (who can read?) there is no point at all. It's like eating peanuts—bound to take the edge off one's appetite.)

**Small But Good**

Distracting labels are only part of what must be called educational overkill for a really quite small but good exhibition. Its core, brought here as part of an exchange project from an exhibition at the Grand Palais in Paris (IHT, Sept. 25), consists of only 41 pictures drawn chiefly from the collections of the Louvre and Met and 12 of the 41 are old friends from the Met's permanent collection and from other public and private collections here and in Europe. Supplementing these are more



"Chez le Père Lathuile" by Edouard Manet (1879) from the Tournai (Belgium) Musée des Beaux-Arts, now on view in New York.

than three times as many more pictures (mostly from the Met's own stock) selected to illustrate the kind of insipid, academic salon painting the impressionists were rebelling against (would you believe Chabas's "September Morn"? Cott's "The Storm," a typical Vibert of fat cardinals?); earlier works (by Delacroix, Turner, Courbet) which played a role in shaping the impressionists' own experiments; pictures painted by the impressionists and their friends after the group's last joint exhibition in 1886; works by artists disputably identified as American impressionists (Sargent, Chase, Weil, and such), and, finally, a roomful of photographs, X-rays and some drawings demonstrating the impressionists' working methods.

The whole lot are hung in what is presented as a teaching experience to encourage what the museum calls an "expansionist point of view as opposed to the rather more traditional contractionist approach." All this means is that the impressionists weren't really the homogeneous, purposeful entity focusing on the work of Monet, as some may think, but a group of artists of diversified approach united chiefly in their opposition to the sight, picture-postcard banality of "official" art. But everybody knows that. One shouldn't have to point out once again that no movement is ever more than a kind of electrical current into which individual artists briefly plug for a charge of new ideas absorbing or reflecting them as they find their own ways.

More Sense  
Films? It turns out that the "film" made especially for the show and being presented in a small adjoining gallery, is a small strip of slides.

What would have more sense was an imaginative, longer movie documenting the movement, commenting on specific pictures in the exhibition, and presented in a foyer gallery as an introduction to it. Everybody seeing the film would derive a maximum of informed pleasure from the exhibition itself without the distraction of lengthy labels. Even for those who saw the film and then skipped the exhibit, it wouldn't be the saying goes, be a total loss.

Oh, yes, the exhibition itself. There are some not-to-be-overlooked highlights among the 20 works brought from abroad in an over-produced event that with-

**Arts Agenda**

The British Comedy Club of Brussels is presenting Nicholas Stuart Gray's version of "Beauty and the Beast," directed by Clodagh Stanford at the Théâtre des Arts, Bourne, Jan. 1 at 2:30 and 7 p.m., Jan. 2 and 3 at 8 p.m.

Herbert von Karajan's illness has forced the postponement of the revival of his production of "La Bohème" at La Scala in Milan this week.

Charles Mackerras conducts a revival of Wagner's "Die Meistersinger" (in English) with Newman Beoley as Hans Sachs Dec. 31 by the English National Opera at the London Coliseum, with further performances scheduled for Jan. 4, 6, 11, 13 and 18. At Covent Garden, the principal year-end activity will be performances by the Royal Ballet of "The Sleeping Beauty" on Dec. 28, 30 and Jan. 1, with numerous cast changes.

**Public Understands**

But is there any harm in telling it all again? Not really. But if there is any movement in art that it provoked great controversy a hundred years ago is beyond the point. Only a little looking—and viewers accepted the idea that pictures painted in short, separated brushstrokes, mostly of bright color, could convey a fresher and more appealing image of nature and light than the generally dark, precisely contoured pictures they had known. As early as 1886 the first impres-

sionist show was held in New York, to a good reception and a surprising number of sales. Thereafter it was pleasure all the way, to the point where even today every one of the innumerable impressionist exhibitions (as, for example, the singularly lovely "September Morn") Cott's "The Storm," a typical Vibert of fat cardinals?); earlier works (by Delacroix, Turner, Courbet) which played a role in shaping the impressionists' own experiments; pictures painted by the impressionists and their friends after the group's last joint exhibition in 1886; works by artists disputably identified as American impressionists (Sargent, Chase, Weil, and such), and, finally, a roomful of photographs, X-rays and some drawings demonstrating the impressionists' working methods.

out them might easily and economically have been assembled from the superb collections of impressionist pictures owned by museums scattered across the United States.

Another delight is the juxtaposition of two pictures of the identical scene, a restaurant on the Seine, each titled "Le Grenier," painted by Renoir and Monet working alongside each other one summer afternoon in 1872. (Monet had been in London with Picasso during the Franco-Prussian war and seen the Turners there) and called "Impression." It was from this that a derisive critic got the name he applied to the movement.

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**PARIS, LONDON****Around the European Galleries****Paris**

Dolly Moreira, Galerie Jean-Claude Bellier, 30-32 Avenue Pierre 1er de Serbie, Paris 8, to Jan. 15.

Chrome-plated cylinders with powerful magnets inside that hold clusters of metal balls onto their surface. Other shapes also using the same principle. The result is unusually handsome in this vein and invites manipulation by the spectator.

Le Fare, Galerie Denise René, 12 Rue la Boétie, Paris 8, to Jan. 20.

A looping, weaving rainbow, a spherical or cubic rainbow, a rainbow with a permanent wave, a rainbow caught in a cluster of stems: these and other chromatic fantasies by Julio Le Faré are neatly done, tidily painted and not really endowed with fantasy.

British Paintings, Crane Kalman Gallery, 178 Cromwell Road, London, S.W.3, to Jan. 21.

This ninth annual personal selection by gallery director Andreas Kalman excels in quality, including first-rate works by Duncan Grant, Ben Nicholson, Moore, Sutherland, and McBratney-Piper, Hitchens, Carol Wright, Cecil Collins, William Scott, Bryan

Street, London, W.8, to Jan. 4. Labelled "sculpture," these interesting works are on the borderline between sculpture and painting, incorporating solid objects, fragmented statuary and so on, in painted compartments and backdrops. Brooding and somber, they have a haunting quality about them.

Nude or Naked, Nicholls Treadwell Gallery, 38 Children Street, London, W.1, to Jan. 4.

In this examination "intended to provide an opportunity to reassess the way in which artists see and depict the unclothed human body... in the light of changing social attitudes" more than 40 artists prove that "the more things change..."

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Senior, and a triumphant bronze by Edwin Sandys.

Paul Klee: The Last Years, Hayward Gallery, South Bank, London, S.E.1, to Jan. 12.

This is a loan exhibition from the collection of the artist's son Peter, of paintings made between 1933 and Klee's death in 1940. I find neither the grandeur nor the wit in them of the earlier work though the titles bring forth a number of wry smiles because of their sharp satire.

Ekon: The Splendor of Icons, Maria Andrija's Icon Gallery, 162 Walton Street, London, S.W.1, to Jan. 31.

This small (27) but beautiful collection of icons is displayed to its best advantage in the refurbished gallery. Treasures include two ikons of the Archangel Michael, one early 14th-century Byzantine Bulgarian; a fire Byzantine St. Christopher; a three-level Moscow nativity dating from the beginning of the 16th century, and a Macaronian icon of the period of Madonna Hodigitria, the Madonna who shows the way.

MAX WYKES-JOYCE.

**EAST BERLIN: Making a Case (Political) of Faust Legend**

By Paul Moor

# New York Stock Exchange Trading (3 O'clock)

1974 Stocks and Div. In S High Low Quot. close

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Cross

## BUSINESS

INTERNATIONAL

# Herald Tribune

Published with The New York Times and The Washington Post

PARIS, SATURDAY-SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28-29, 1974

## FINANCE

\* On Expectation of American Buying Next Week

### U.K. Gold Price Reaches \$195.75

LONDON, Dec. 27 (NYT).—The price of gold rose to a record high again in moderate trading on the European bullion markets in a further reaction to the pending legalization of American ownership of the precious metal.

The price hit \$195 at the afternoon fixing in London, up \$2

from the record set Monday and up \$25 from the level at Tuesday's abbreviated Christmas Eve trading session. Later today, the price reached \$195.75.

As in previous sessions, the speculation was fueled by the prospect of an increase in demand due to the American entry into the market for the first

time in more than four decades on Jan. 2. Speculators are hoping that American buying will push prices even further.

Numerous theories concerning the impact of the American presence have been circulating in Europe. According to one, a significant number of Americans who have traditionally invested in the stock market will shift to

less Inflation Seen in Japan But Buying Power Is Plunging

TOKYO, Dec. 27 (AP-DJ).—Japanese consumer price increases are beginning to show signs of moderation, but consumer purchasing power, as measured by wages in real income, is declining sharply.

This development was shown figures released today by the prime minister's office. The Tokyo consumer price index (1970 equals 100) registered 162.8 for November, up 1.1 per cent from October, and 21.0 per cent from a year earlier. The advance from October in the Tokyo index, which is regarded as a leading indicator, price trends in the nation as a whole, was the second smallest monthly gain this year.

For all of 1974, the Tokyo consumer price index averaged 152.7, 22.7 per cent from the previous year. Tokyo consumer costs rose by an average 11.8 per cent in 1973 and by only 4.8 per cent in 1972.

The prime minister's office also said that the national consumer price index for October totaled 101, up 0.7 per cent from September and up 2.8 per cent from a year earlier. Compilation of a national index lags that of Tokyo by one month.

The average monthly income of salaried workers totaled 188 yen in October, up 17.5 per cent in nominal terms from a year earlier, but down 6.8 per cent after adjustment for price increases, the prime minister's office said.

Although salaried workers received increases in base pay ranging about 33 per cent last year, their overall income has risen as sharply, mainly because of a drastic decline in prime work.

The prime minister's office said that average spending by salaried workers in October was 472 yen, up 18.4 per cent monthly, but down 8.2 per cent

Another indication of weakening consumer purchasing power came from the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, which said a November survey of 2,072 firms in recession-hit sectors disclosed 10 per cent had permanently dismissed some of their workers.

The industries surveyed were textile, metal product, nonferrous metal, machinery, electric equipment and transportation equipment producers as well as construction companies.

The chamber said 55 firms, or 6.2 per cent of the total employing permanently dismissed employees, transferred workers to related firms or canceled planned new hiring since September. Another 33 companies, or 4.3 per cent of those replying, said they have laid off workers temporarily, guaranteeing such employees an average 80.7 per cent of their base pay during the time they are out of work.

The chamber said an additional 61 firms, or 10.3 per cent of those replying, said they intended to trim their work forces in the near future.

### French Seek Salvation in Big Industrial Export Programs

By Flora Lewis

PARIS, Dec. 27 (NYT).—The central thesis of French policy is seek the solution through massive, long-term industrial export programs. This has become clear from the concluding reports of four recent French missions to oil-producing countries.

Premier Jacques Chirac has returned from Iran and Foreign Minister Jean Sauvagnargues from Egypt. Mr. Chirac recently in Iran and Interior Minister Michel Poniatowski in Libya.

This four-pronged initiative has adopted the concrete basis for its approach that France intends to take in the coming years in its crucial oil diplomacy. The code has called the framework "a diplomacy of payments."

French policy as it now stands is based on the condition that it is illusory to believe that any combined force of the industrial powers could succeed in driving oil prices down. French officials persist in believing that the United States is also coming around to this view, despite public denials by Secretary of State Henry Kissinger.

Diplomatic Goals

The French approach puts the maintenance of employment at the top of the agenda in international payments as the key twin goals of oil diplomacy. Therefore, the spokesman said, the best way to deal with the huge deficits caused by costly oil imports is to seek equally big orders for each industry rather than to try to attract Arab investments.

Deals now envisaged amount to over \$13 billion, although it is conceded that while some have reached the contractual stage, others are by no means in.

"If they all go through," he said, "it will work to our advantage." The company said the move was prompted by the sharp decline in the British auto market. Registration

equal to four weeks worth of total French exports, or 100 days worth of oil imports."

That does not take account of other raw-material imports necessary to produce manufactured exports, of course.

But it is considered here that there is extra value in the fact that the sales should provide new markets for precisely those French industries that have been failing and threatened with contraction—electronics, engineering, construction, automobiles and nuclear energy. The deal with

Iran also opens important new outlets for French agriculture.

The major elements of the \$7-billion agreement with Iran are: two nuclear energy plants of 900 megawatts; Tehran subway construction worth \$550 million; sale of the French color-television process SECAM; a Gaullist prestige project expected to be a long-time revenue producer, but which had hitherto met foreign sales resistance; 26 turbo-trains and railroad equipment; a fleet of ships to carry liquefied natural gas; a Renault automobile factory.

French reports speculated that this "triangular" trade would extend to French armaments as well as industrial exports to Egypt, paid with Persian Gulf oil earnings.

In return, Paris officials hope, France would be granted immunity from any new oil-export boycott in the event of another Middle East war. But it is stressed here that there is no guarantee and no explicit understanding with Egypt on this issue.

Right to Exist

Mr. Sauvagnargues' theme in Egypt was that while France joined the Arabs in accepting "the Palestinian fact," it also maintains the policy of supporting Israel's right to existence."

The French government continues to declare its willingness to act as a guarantor of any Middle East settlement.

For the first half of 1974, Chrysler U.K. reported net consolidated earnings of \$72,000, down from \$26.8 million a year earlier.

A Chrysler spokesman said the company will be reviewing the situation at its Coventry plants next week.

Chrysler currently employs about 29,000 in Britain. In late November, it announced plans to dismiss 700 office workers, a move that followed a reduction through attrition of its production workforce.

For the first half of 1974, Chrysler U.K. reported net consolidated earnings of \$72,000, down from \$26.8 million a year earlier.

According to Mr. Johnson, Etkofisk oil reserves are estimated at 220 million metric tons.

In an interview with the Norwegian news agency, Mr. Johnson said Norway does not expect foreign oil companies will consider withdrawing from the North Sea venture, because of increased government taxes.

In fixing taxes and royalties, the Norwegian authorities intend to find a balance between their interests and those of the companies, he said.

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to hold imports down prove unsuccessful, quotas could still be imposed if they rose above a "cap" of 12 billion pounds, one official explained. "We still have a club in the closet," one aide said.

Mr. Ford promised in November that if imports get out of hand, he would either impose quota again or work out voluntary restraint agreements with major foreign suppliers.

Reluctant to Comment

Some officials say they are reluctant to comment on the compromise plan, because foreign investment have not yet been informed.

Since both Japan and the European Common Market imposed virtual embargoes on beef imports earlier this year to protect their livestock, administration officials have been concerned that the United States could become a dumping ground for foreign beef, thus worsening the plight of American cattlemen.

Blaming inflation and economic uncertainty, he reported cargo traffic probably increased by 6 per cent, compared with a previous growth rate of some 20 per cent. Charter traffic by association carriers was down 13 per cent.

In his year-end statement, Mr. Hammarkjeld expressed guarded optimism about future prospects, saying, "Hopefully, economic pressures in 1975 will be less intense and considerably more predictable."

"The very fact that air carriers have been able to weather the global economic storm without a complete collapse is in itself a sign of the industry's inherent resilience," he explained.

The concern of U.S. officials is

that the price picture could shift later next year, and Australian frozen beef could head for the U.S. market, where it would compete directly with older breeding cows being slaughtered by American livestock men for hamburger meat.

The compromise plan favored by the administration allows more flexibility than the import-quota method. The quota system gives foreign meat imports a fixed share of U.S. domestic production, amounting to around 6.7 per cent.

The Agriculture Department reportedly estimates that under this formula the 1975 quota for fresh, frozen and chilled beef and mutton would be 1.074 billion pounds. Under the law, mandatory controls would be triggered when imports exceeded that by 10 per cent, or 1.181 billion pounds.

Should voluntary efforts to

hold imports down prove unsuccessful, quotas could still be imposed if they rose above a "cap" of 12 billion pounds, one official explained. "We still have a club in the closet," one aide said.

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## U.S. Commodity Prices

Commodity and name	Prd.	Year ago
FOODS		
Coffee, Arabic, m.	7.85%	8.81%
Coffee & Santos, m.	8.84%	8.68%
TEXTELS		
Printex 64-69 38½% fd.	25	56
METALS		
Steel billets (1/2 in. ton)	180.00	130.00
Iron & P. Pig., Phila., bar	100.71	100.71
Steel Scrap No 1 bry Pitt	74.75	75.75
Lead, spot, lb.	24.14	13.19
Copper elec., lb.	73.74-74.75	68.15-69.25
Zinc, S. & L. basic, lb.	3.41-3.43	2.85
Aluminum, S. & L. basic, lb.	28.40	28.22
Silver N.Y. oz.	1.05	1.05
COMMODITY Indices		
Moody's index (base 100)		
Dec. 31, 1961	826.0	680.6
* Nominal		

NEW YORK FUTURES Dec. 27, 1974

Prev. Open High Low Close

WORLD SUGAR No. 145.70 45.70 45.70 45.25

Jan. 45.70 45.72 45.72 45.72 45.25

Mar. 45.72 45.72 45.72 45.72 45.25

Apr. 45.72 45.72 45.72 45.72 45.25

May 45.72 45.72 45.72 45.72 45.25

Jun. 45.72 45.72 45.72 45.72 45.25

Jul. 45.72 45.72 45.72 45.72 45.25

Aug. 45.72 45.72 45.72 45.72 45.25

Sep. 45.72 45.72 45.72 45.72 45.25

Oct. 45.72 45.72 45.72 45.72 45.25

Nov. 45.72 45.72 45.72 45.72 45.25

Dec. 45.72 45.72 45.72 45.72 45.25

Sales: 1,322

COFFEE (50,000 lbs.)

No Sales

COCOA

Mar. 67.75 68.35 68.35 68.10 67.55

Apr. 62.50 63.00 63.00 62.00 62.45

May 60.55 60.55 60.55 60.40 60.15

Sales: 1,340

POTATOES (50,000 lbs.)

Mar. 3.40 3.42 3.42 3.42 3.42

March 3.47 3.52 3.44 3.42 3.42

Sales: Feb. 1974

COPPER (25,000 lbs.)

Jan. 56.00 57.00 57.00 57.00 57.10

Feb. 57.00 57.00 57.00 57.00 57.00

Mar. 56.90 56.90 56.90 56.80 56.50

Apr. 56.90 56.90 56.90 56.80 56.50

May 56.90 56.90 56.90 56.80 56.50

Jun. 56.90 56.90 56.90 56.80 56.50

Sep. 56.90 62.00 62.00 62.00 60.10

Oct. 56.90 62.00 62.00 62.00 60.10

Dec. 56.90 62.00 62.00 62.00 60.10

Sales: 1,340

LIVE BEEF CATTLE (40,000 lbs.)

Feb. 39.40 39.40 39.40 39.40 39.40

Apr. 40.87 41.35 40.75 41.25 40.80

Aug. 41.25 41.65 41.25 41.25 41.25

Sep. 40.95 41.45 40.42 41.25 40.95

Oct. 41.25 41.45 40.42 41.25 40.95

Dec. 41.25 41.45 40.42 41.25 40.95

Sales: Feb. 1974 - April 1980; June 1980

Aug. 1974 - Dec. 1974; Oct. 2001

Sales: June 374; Aug. 1377; Oct. 2001

Sales: Jan. 1974 - April 1980; June 1980

Aug. 1974 - Dec. 1974; Oct. 2001

Sales: Jan. 1974 - April 1980; June 1980

Aug. 1974 - Dec. 1974; Oct. 2001

Sales: Jan. 1974 - April 1980; June 1980

Aug. 1974 - Dec. 1974; Oct. 2001

Sales: Jan. 1974 - April 1980; June 1980

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## American Stock Exchange Trading (3 O'clock)

**ACROSS**

- 1 Supreme League
- 2 African gazelle
- 3 Young pig
- 4 Sun of Zeos
- 5 Reception rooms
- 6 Rider on a pao
- 7 Circular painting
- 8 Like some TV
- 9 Operas
- 10 House area
- 11 Lake Valley area
- 12 Shanty of Arab
- 13 Kufeng's province
- 14 Stand of a
- 15 Skirted skirt
- 16 Othello, for one
- 17 Therefore: Fr.
- 18 Tree
- 19 Ballet leap
- 20 "Piggy"
- 21 Bobby Biggs' racket
- 22 P. J. shrubs Var.
- 23 Ten decades, for
- 24 Dr. Delilah's duck
- 25 Of bronze: Lat.
- 26 Krupp locality
- 27 Iron's Shera
- 28 It's like a — the door
- 29 East Indian sailor
- 30 French heroes of W.W. II
- 31 Wild plums
- 32 Dardito
- 33 I love thy rocks
- 34 — was saying
- 35 Hair-raising place
- 36 Eyebrows: Prefix
- 37 Italian month
- 38 Final
- 39 More of Homerick
- 40 "Odyssey" beggar

**DOWN**

- 1 Where Shillong
- 2 System title
- 3 Dramatic corn
- 4 Disreputable
- 5 Italian wine city
- 6 Festive Prefix
- 7 Bell town

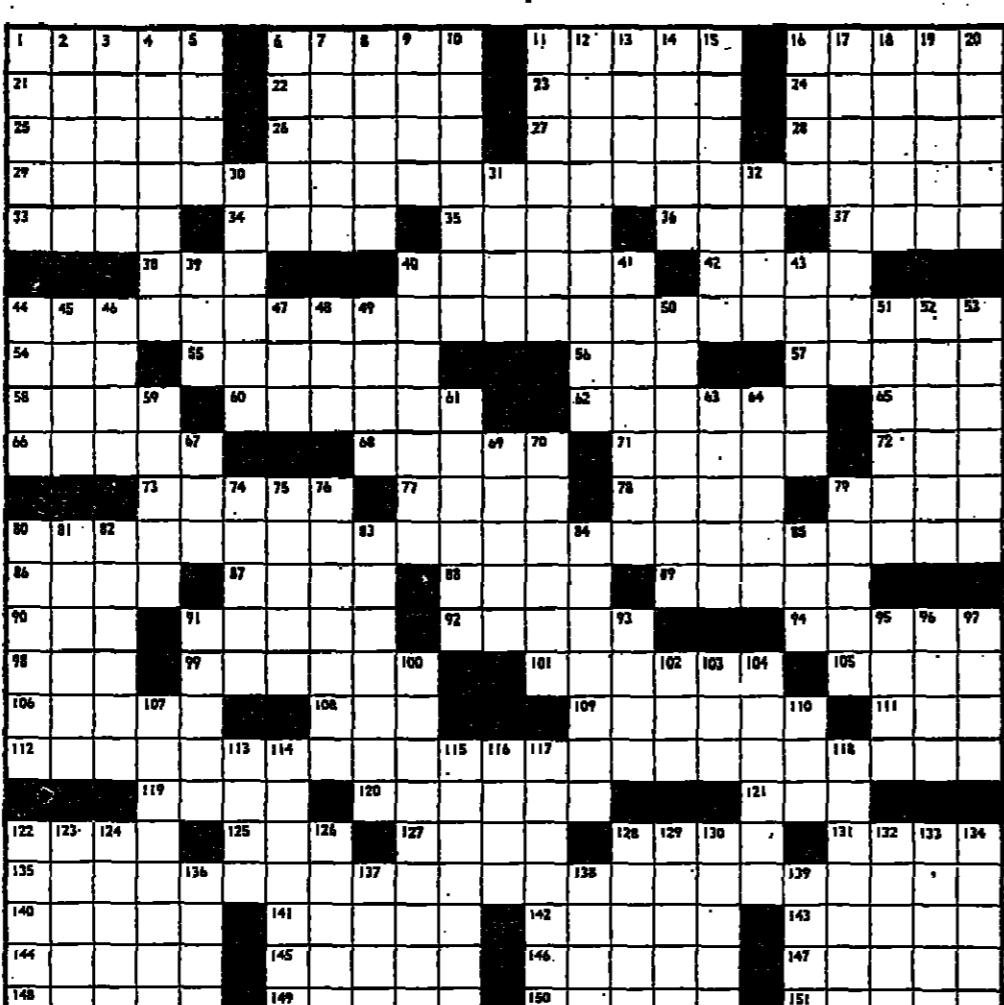
Solution to Last Week's Puzzle

**SLAVERY COMO** 21. JOHN SWEDEN  
22. MARY SUE  
23. CHIANG DOBIE 24. OHIO 25. ETTA  
26. UTAH 27. EVERTON 28. BETHLEHEM  
29. TUTTI 30. EXCISE 31. HIRE 32. ATHOS  
33. CREWES 34. DUE 35. ZOO 36. VIE  
37. WHITCOMBE 38. YASU 39. IN THE EAST  
40. ING 41. DUDS 42. GUS 43. URBANIA  
44. EXCO 45. LIPA 46. ELKES 47. ALONG  
48. ALL 49. IT 50. CHILD 51. DINAH 52. MANAGERS  
53. DENOTE 54. MITO 55. MOD 56. ICI  
57. ANALOGY 58. LEIF 59. SOIF 60. EICH  
61. NITROVER 62. RICHA 63. HIRSH 64. INING  
65. ONE 66. VEGAS 67. HIRSH 68. INING  
69. PARTI 70. VAC 71. SOILE 72. TWILL  
73. ASIAT 74. MESS 75. SHABBY 76. LINE  
77. CARL 78. OLIVIE 79. HAZIE 80. ANNEX  
81. KIEL 82. IRISSE 83. AIBET 84. REGINA  
85. SILEY 86. KNIT 87. HYDIE 88. NESETTE

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

LIVING IT UP—By Frances Hansen

Edited by WILL WENG



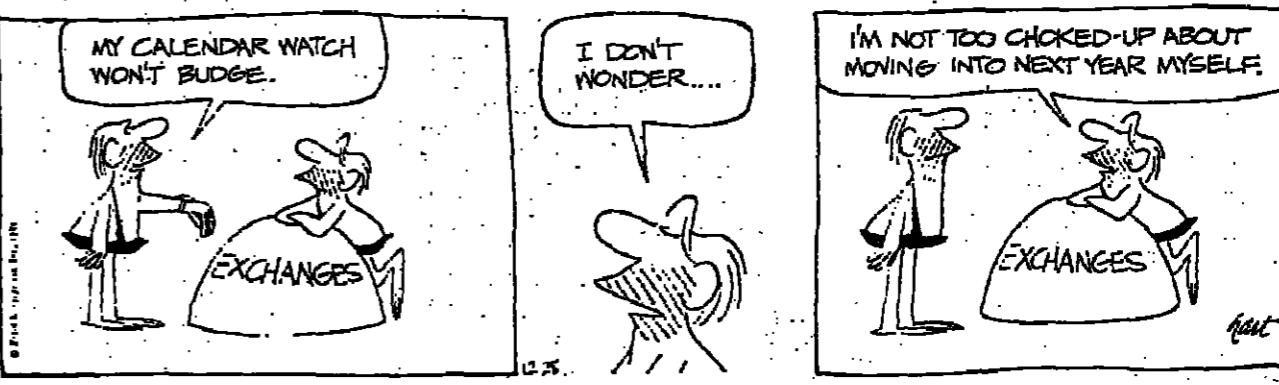
**DOWN**

- 1 Dome or Hoopla
- 2 Chemical suffix
- 3 Quake
- 4 Beaupré
- 5 Quebec shrine
- 6 Little Bluebird
- 7 Land
- 8 Stilled

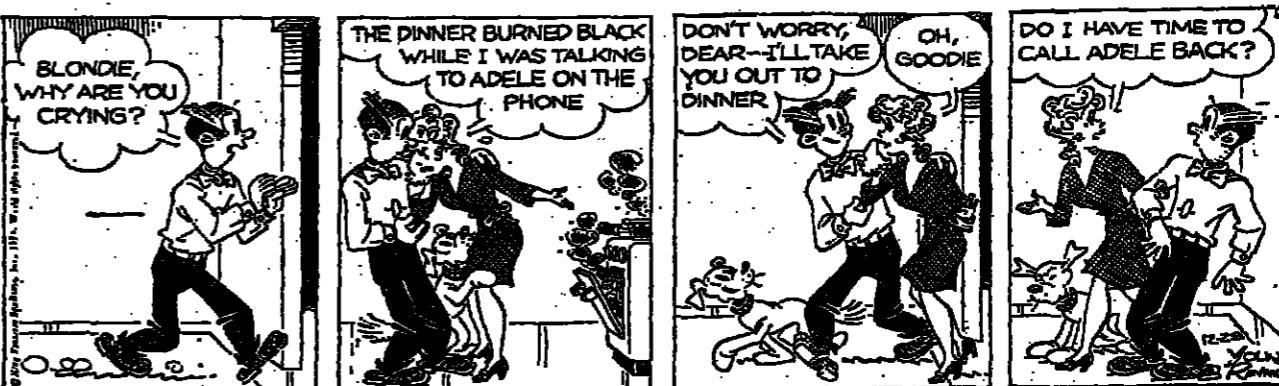
**PEANUTS**



**B.C.**



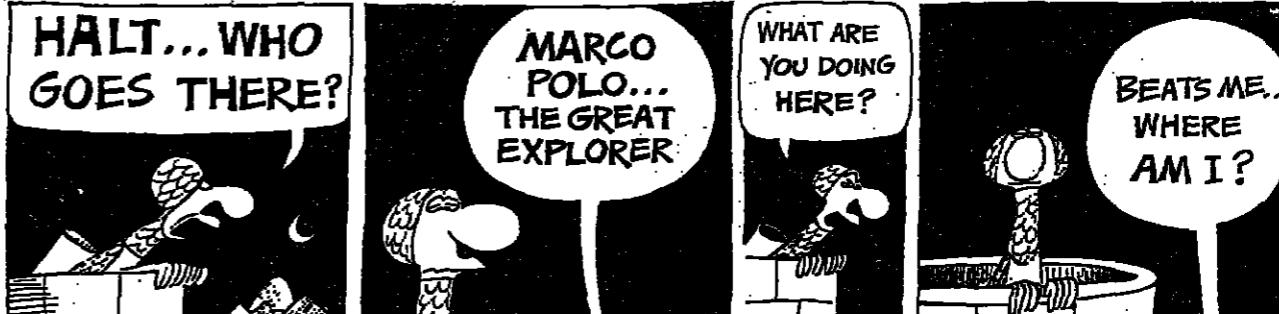
**BLONDIE**



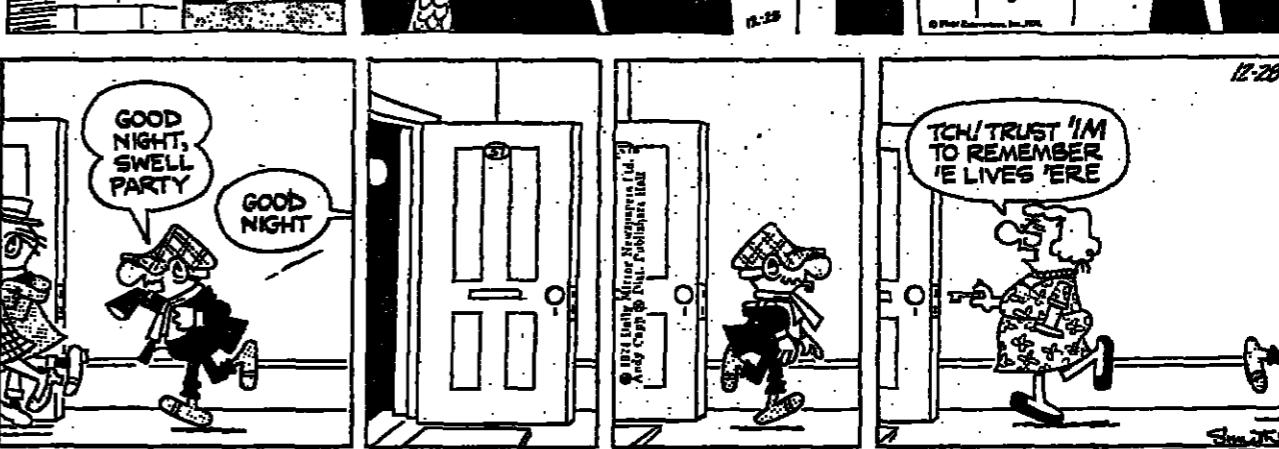
**BETTY BAILEY**



**WIZARD of ID**



**ANDY CAPP**



**REX MORGAN M.D.**



**RIP KIRBY**



DENNIS THE MENACE



JUMBLE® — that scrambled word game

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

MAUSE

AVARL

TRUITY

BOLIFE

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print the SURPRISE ANSWER here

(American Monday)

Yesterday's Jumble PYLON HONOR UPROAR INFECT

Answer: A hard blow to the Far East—A TYPHOON

Anatole Broyard is a book critic for The New York Times.

'MAGINE GETTIN' PERFUME AND BEADS FOR CHRISTMAS? THAT'S WHAT COMES OF NOT BELIEVIN' IN SANTA CLAUS.'

## WEATHER

C	F
ALGARVE	12 55
AMSTERDAM	10 50
ANKARA	8 47
ATHENS	9 48
BRITAIN	6 45
BELGRADE	6 45
BEDFORD	9 48
BRUSSELS	11 54
BUDAPEST	14 57
CAIRO	14 57
CASABLANCA	19 66
COPENHAGEN	18 58
CONSTANTINOPLE	12 52
DUBLIN	9 48
EDINBURGH	7 45
FLORENCE	10 58
FRANKFURT	11 54
GENEVA	7 45
HELSINKI	2 36
ISTANBUL	8 46
LAS PALMAS	18 61
LISBON	11 52
LONDON	11 52
LOS ANGELES	9 48
	(Yesterday's readings: U.S., Canada at 1700 GMT; others at 1200 GMT)

## INTERNATIONAL FUNDS

ADVERTISEMENT	
December 27, 1974	
The net asset value quotations shown below are supplied by the Funds listed. The International Herald Tribune cannot accept responsibility for them. Following marginal symbols indicate frequency of quotations supplied for the IHT: (d) daily; (w) weekly; (m) monthly.	
(1) Alexander Fund	\$4.93
(2) Am. Express Int'l Fd.	\$5.79
(3) Apollo (Temple) Inv. Fd.	\$10.13
(4) Arista Fund	\$6.37
(5) Admiral Trust S.A.	\$5.49
(6) Australia's Selection Fd.	\$3.55
AUSTRALIAN INV. MGT. CORP.:	
(1) Fund of Australia	Aus \$4.53
(2) Prop Bonds Aust.	Aus \$1.27
(3) Inv. Fund	Aus \$0.46
BAER, Julius & Co.:	
(1) Baerbond	\$747.50
(2) Comfor	\$722.00
(3) Stockbond	\$7857.00
(4) Broad & Wall Fd. Inv'l	\$28.84
(5) Broad & Wall Fd. Inv'l	\$11.37
(6) Can. Gas & Electric Fd.	\$8.39
(7) Can. Secur. Growth Fd.	\$2.71
CAPITAL INTERNATIONAL S.A.:	
(1) Capital Int'l	\$10.43
(2) Capital Ital'ia R.A.	\$10.43
(3) Capital Investments	LP\$911
(4) Cleveland Offshore Fd.	\$30.00
(5) Conver. Fd. Inv'l & Corp.	\$9.75
(6) Corp. Inv'l Fd.	\$1.50
(7) Convert. Fd. Inv'l	\$1.50
CREDIT SUISSE:	
(1) Celsius	SF743.00
(2) CSF Bonds	SPF62.00
(3) CSF Fonds-Int'l	SPF62.00
(4) CSF Inv'l Fund	SPF55.00
(5) CSF Inv'l Fund	SPF55.00
(6) CSF Inv'l Fund	SPF55.00
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(81) CSF Inv'l Fund	SPF55.00
(82) CSF Inv'l Fund	SPF55.00
(83) CSF Inv'l Fund	



